The Middlebury Campus

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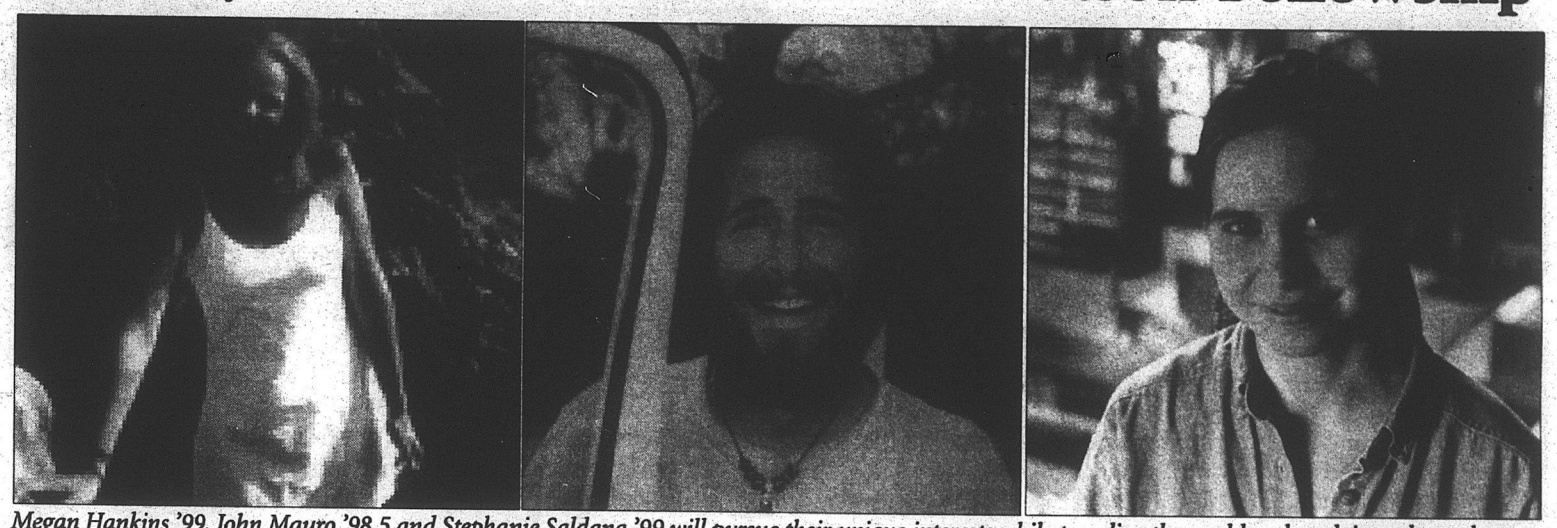
All three Middlebury nominees receive 1999 Watson Fellowship

By Lindsay Frost
Staff Writer



Megan Hankins '99, John Mauro '98.5 and Stephanie Saldana '99 will pursue their unique interests while traveling the world and studying other cultures.

For the first time since 1969, all of the Middlebury nominees for the prestigious Thomas J. Watson Fellowship received the award. Megan Hankins '99, John Mauro '98.5 and Stephanie Saldana '99 were all recently named Watson fellows.

The Watson Fellowship is awarded to 60 college students each year. Fellows receive a prize of $22,000 to explore a topic of their choosing in countries other than the United States. After being nominated by the college in the fall, Hankins, Mauro and Saldana were selected by the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship Foundation from a pool of over 1,000 nominees.

In the fall, Hankins, Mauro and Saldana, along with 33 other candidates, wrote proposals for their projects and submitted them to Middlebury's Watson Fellowship selection committee, which consists of Director of Student Fellowships and Scholarships Arlinda Wickland, Lecturer in English Don Mitchell, Professor and Dana Faculty Fellow of Anthropology and Art David Napier and Dean of Students Emerita Erica Wonnacott. The committee selected the three exceptional students based on the strength of their proposals and nominated them for the fellowship.

The college is pleased with the success of its nominees this year. "It is amazing to think that we won three out of three this year," said Wickland. "We could say...it's not really surprising considering the caliber of our nominees. But our selection committee is quite mindful that we are competing with top colleges who also have very strong nominees. That realization keeps us humble and focused."

Hankins' project, entitled "Building the Natural Environment: A Study of Zoo Architecture" will take her to Germany, England, Australia and Japan to visit zoos in each country and study their architecture. As an architecture major, she plans to examine and compare the very different attitudes of each country

(see Watson, page 3)

Committee releases report on campus diversity

By Mary O'Brien
Opinions Editor

President McCardell's office released the Human Relations Committee (HRC) this past Monday. The report examines issues of diversity in various aspects of campus life.

The report defines diversity as "a group of people with differing perspectives and background experiences interacting and sharing their varied points of view." It identifies that "changing demographics" routinely alter the concept of diversity at Middlebury and around the world.

"We are quite pleased with the report," said committee member Miguel Fernández, a Spanish instructor at the college. "We feel it is inclusive and that it addresses a number of different areas, provides a lot of suggestions, and also raises a lot of questions about diversity on this campus."

In its report, the HRC identifies several aspects of Middlebury life that are closely tied to the concept of diversity: admissions and financial aid, the retention of students, curriculum, housing and communication, among others. The 91-page report is divided into seven sections and 36 subsections. The sections include analyses of the current situation in each area as well as the HRC's recommendations for increased diversity and improved campus relations.

The recommendations of the committee center around increased student involvement and communication between the student body and members of the faculty and administration. It also suggests increased multicultural opportunities for both faculty and the student body as well as collection of feedback from current students and alumni. "[The HRC Report] is more vital to the administration," said Ebony McDonald '99. "[But] I hope students read it also and realize how their input can make a difference." She said also that although people may have differing opinions regarding the report, they must understand that the committee worked hard to make a fair assessment of the campus.

The report also discusses the Campus Center Model for Diversity, addressing principle, architectural design, the building process and the creation of a "campus living room." The space, the report concludes, should achieve three goals: convey that the college values diversity, cares about its community members, and "fosters the life of the mind in all aspects."

Fernández said that the feedback the committee has received so far has been positive. "The recommendations in the report are 'doable,'" he said. "That is to say, they are things that can actually be completed. We felt as though the purpose of the report was actually to make a difference and not just to serve as a 'Band-Aid' for the problem. What we have suggested has real substance."

The Human Relations Commit-

(see Diversity, page 2)

Political prisoner exposes Chinese cruelty in Tibet

By Kristine Palmero
News Assistant

Palden Gyatso, a Tibetan monk who was imprisoned in Tibet by the Chinese government for 33 years, recounted his horrific experiences to the college community on Tuesday. Gyatso, with his translator Tashi Tsering, visited Middlebury as part of a nationwide Global Exchange speaking tour in conjunction with Students for a Free Tibet.

Gyatso was born in 1933 in a small Tibetan village and at 18, he became an ordained monk at one of Tibet's most famous monasteries, the Drepung Monastery. On March 10, 1959, the People's Liberation Army of China illegally occupied Tibet. In response to the occupation, Tibetans flooded the capital city of Lhasa for what is now known as the first Tibetan uprising.

"People from all walks of life were worried about protecting the Dalai Lama from the Chinese army," said Gyatso. "I was 27 years old, and I was arrested for participating in this peaceful demonstration."

This protest was followed by Mao's "Cultural Revolution," which aimed at destroying Tibetan culture. In 1959, thousands of Tibetans were killed in Lhasa alone, and more than a million died in three Tibetan provinces as a result of Chinese oppression.

For the next 33 years, Gyatso endured torture, starvation and hard labor. He was imprisoned in a monastery with no toilets, mattresses or running water and forced to survive on a diet of water and flour broth "so clear you can see your face in it like a mirror." He said that a tin can was a prized possession because the prisoners did not have bowls for their daily ladle of broth.

With their diet of light soup, they had to work nine hours a day, taking iron plows, which required four people to pull, to till the land. "We

(see Monk, page 4)

David Barreda

Gyatso displayed various torture devices from his days as a prisoner in China as he spoke to Middlebury students.

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WEB please visit our website at: www.middlebury.edu/~campus

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Chini takes a realistic look at the commons system.

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Arts

Mary Cassatt exhibit awes and satisfies.

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Sports

Middlebury Hockey claims fifth NCAA title.

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COLLEGE Shorts

By Chris Morgan
Associate Editor
and Kristine Palmero
News Assistant

Sniper terrorizes Modesto College

The campus of Modesto College was closed for a day last week after a student was shot by who is believed to have been a sniper.

Zachary Smith, a student at the college, was sitting outside when he was struck by the assailant's bullet. Smith told police that he had not seen the rifleman and did not know why he would have been targeted.

Two other students at the college claim to have heard a gunshot in a hallway of the college's agricultural building about 30 minutes before Smith was wounded. When the two students looked down the hallway they noticed a bullet casing resting beside a door.

The police were unable to locate the gunman after searching the entire campus and classes resumed the next day.

Seattle student holds two hostage

A disgruntled student at Seattle Central Community College held two college officials hostage last month after failing a course for a second time.

Kai-Ting Hung, who is from Taiwan, entered the college building with two knives and a beer bottle and barricaded himself in a second student-services office. He held the instructor who had failed him and another college official hostage for a brief period of time.

The police made an attempt to subdue Hung with pepper spray when he left the office but he made it to the first floor. He was arrested as he attempted to leave the building.

College officials are currently evaluating whether Hung should be discharged from the school's international program.

Yale and NYU Art School develop films for autistic children

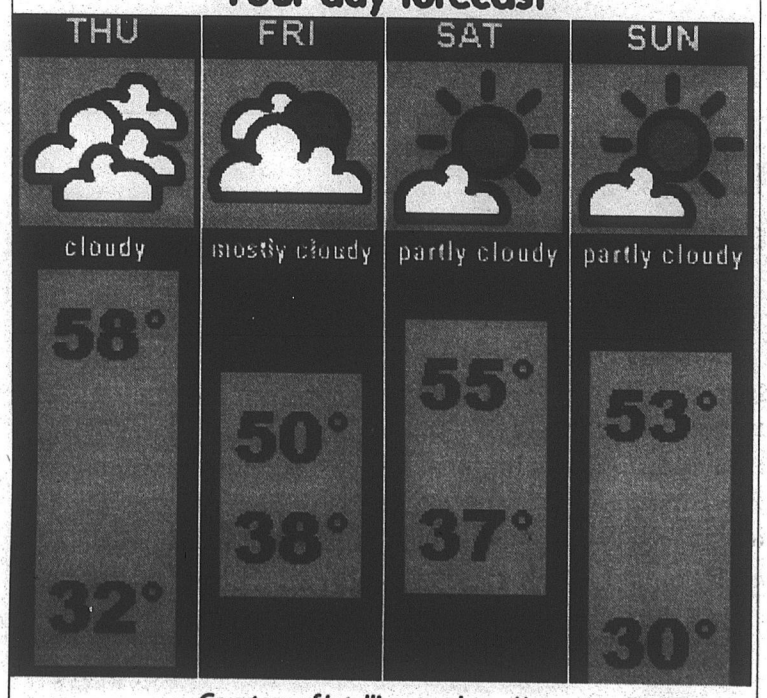
Yale University researchers will soon show autistic patients animated films that they developed with the School of Visual Arts in New York City, which the Yale's Child Study Center chose after a nationwide search last year for their project partner.

The animated figures, said animation department chair Reeves Lehmann, stimulate activity in the brains of autistic patients. Yale researchers will analyze the patients' responses to the movements of the animation to test theories about the origin of autism, which usually first affects children before the age of four. There is no known cure.

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Campus Weather

Four day forecast



Courtesy of Intellicast at http://www.intellicast.com

College announces Ron Brown awards

By Alison Hertel
Staff Writer

Fourteen students will be able to explore a project of their choice this summer with the help of the Ron H. Brown '62 internships. The selected students will receive a gift of $3000, which will allow students to explore various careers.

The recipients will undertake projects in fields from government to science, medicine to education. Of the 46 students who applied, 14 official interns and three alternates were chosen: Irakly Areshidze '00, Andrea Casas '00, Garth Corriveau '99, Tobias Dougherty '00, Alexa Gilbert '00, Roza Ibragimova '00, Merle Maigre '00, Emily Manning '00, Dwayne Martin '99, Sheramy Peltier '00, Adina Racoviteanu '00, Laura Reznik '00, Jessica Silverman '00 and Anna Tiven '00.

Silverman, for example, will spend two months in Kenya in the Luhya tribe teaching English with another American student, an experience which will be organized by the Global Routes program.

Peltier and Corriveau will be working in the political world: Peltier will intern with Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy (D) and will be meeting with and talking to his constituents as well as fulfilling other responsibilities. Corriveau will work with New Hampshire Governor Jeanne Shaheen (D), with hopes that he will have time to work on a presidential campaign.

Casas is currently looking for an internship that will allow her to explore her interest in food allergies, chemistry, nutrition, pharmacology and the use of whole foods as a healing agent. Casas hopes to eventually pursue a career in this field.

The program is open to any junior who is interested in an internship the summer before senior year. Students must submit a proposal for a summer project, which must consist of at least 300 service hours, in February and will be notified in late March. The recipients will receive one-half of the award on July 1, and the other half upon completion of the internship.

A committee consisting of Dean of Advising Karl Lindholm, Internship Coordinator Claire Tetrault, Associate Director of Student Activities Francy Magee, and Director of Student Fellowships and Scholarships Arlinda Wickland chose this year's recipients, who, Tetrault said, were picked among a competitive pool of applicants.

The internships have several purposes: to integrate a liberal arts education and career awareness, and to create a link between work done at the college and the outside world.

Middlebury's only endowed internship program was created as a 25th reunion gift to the College from the class of '62. At their 35th reunion, the class renamed the internship program in memory of Brown. The number of Ron Brown interns that the committee selects depends on the funds that are available for that year. In order to make the internship available to more students, the class of '62 has raised additional funds to increase the program's endowment.

The internships have several purposes: to integrate a liberal arts education and career awareness, create a link between work done at the college and the outside world and increase the visibility of the college among employers and other institutions. Awards are given based on how much they will help to further the purposes of the program. To date, the program has benefitted 119 Middlebury juniors.

Diversity report studies race relations on campus

(continued from page 1)

tee was a standing committee from the years of 1988-1993, and was reinstated again in April 1998 by President McCardell on an ad hoc basis to look into campus relations. From September 1998 to January 1999 the HRC met twice a week to discuss diversity at Middlebury, and also examine how other North Eastern colleges, including Amherst, Bryn Mawr, Dartmouth, Hampshire, Haverford, Mount Holyoke, Smith, Swarthmore and Williams, have dealt with similar issues.

Fernández said that the next step for the Diversity Report was an ongoing review of the material by President McCardell, and several discussions about the committee's recommendations. Open meetings will be held concerning the findings on Tuesday, April 6 at noon in Hepburn Lounge, Wednesday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Munroe Lecture Hall, and Thursday, April 8 at 4:30 p.m. also in Munroe Lecture Hall.

Members of the HRC will present their information as well as answer questions, and will speak with members of the college community "in a campus-wide effort to choose which solutions to implement," said Fernández. Copies of the report are available on the Human Relations Committee Web page (www.middlebury.edu/~hrc) and also at Student Activities, McCullough Information Desk, Human Resources, Office of Student Fellowships, Starr Library, Old Chapel and Security.

President McCardell was not available for comment, but in a formal statement, he said that he felt that despite the approaching end of the academic year, it was "vitally important to engage the discussion now," and that he would enlist the help of other college departments and committees to make a decision about further actions on the report.

Echoing the report's call for increased communication, McCardell also stated he hoped that in examining diversity, students and staff members at the college "engage[d] one another" in an effort to reach a "strengthened community."

The 1998-99 Human Relations Committee was comprised of students and members of the faculty and staff at the college, and was chaired by Director of Student Fellowships Arlinda Wickland. Other participants included Assistant Professor of German Roman Graf, Professor of Dance Andrea Olsen, Associate Professor of Mathematics Bill Peterson, Bursar Sandy Vivian and students Randy Van Cofield '01, Curt Goldman '00 and McDonald. Cofield said of student participation, "We all have different ideas, and we each tried to represent the Middlebury community, which is very difficult. Because I am a black male, when it came to helping write about the sensitive climate of the community, I was able to offer my ideas."

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Alcohol violations cost KDR spring pledge class

By Phill Wood-Smith
In-Depth Editor

Two weeks after being accused of pledge and probationary violations, Kappa Delta Rho (KDR) received word of its punishment. Modifying an Inter House Council (IHC) recommendation, Dean of Students Ann Craig Hanson held that KDR's violations warranted a dismissal of their pledge class, social probation until the end of April and required educational seminars.

On Thursday, March 11, Middlebury Security officers entered KDR's house on South Street and discovered open containers of alcohol being consumed by at least one house member during a pledge event. Under Middlebury College policy, the presence of alcohol at a pledge event, regardless of the sobriety of the pledges, is strictly forbidden. A similar violation in the fall involving pledges on bid night led to Zeta Theta Phi's (ZOO) probation for the remainder of the fall term and the dismissal of their pledge class.

Adding to the complexity of the situation, KDR was already on self-initiated probation at the time of the alleged violations.

Reacting to the charges against KDR, the IHC met on Monday, March 15, to decide what punishment, if any, should be placed on KDR. After one session, IHC returned a confidential recommendation to Hanson. According to Jess Silverman '00, president of the IHC, the recommendation, if it had been accepted by Hanson, would have required KDR to suspend its pledge class for two weeks, go on social probation until the end of April, and host a speaker series on the dangers of alcohol in unequal power relationships.

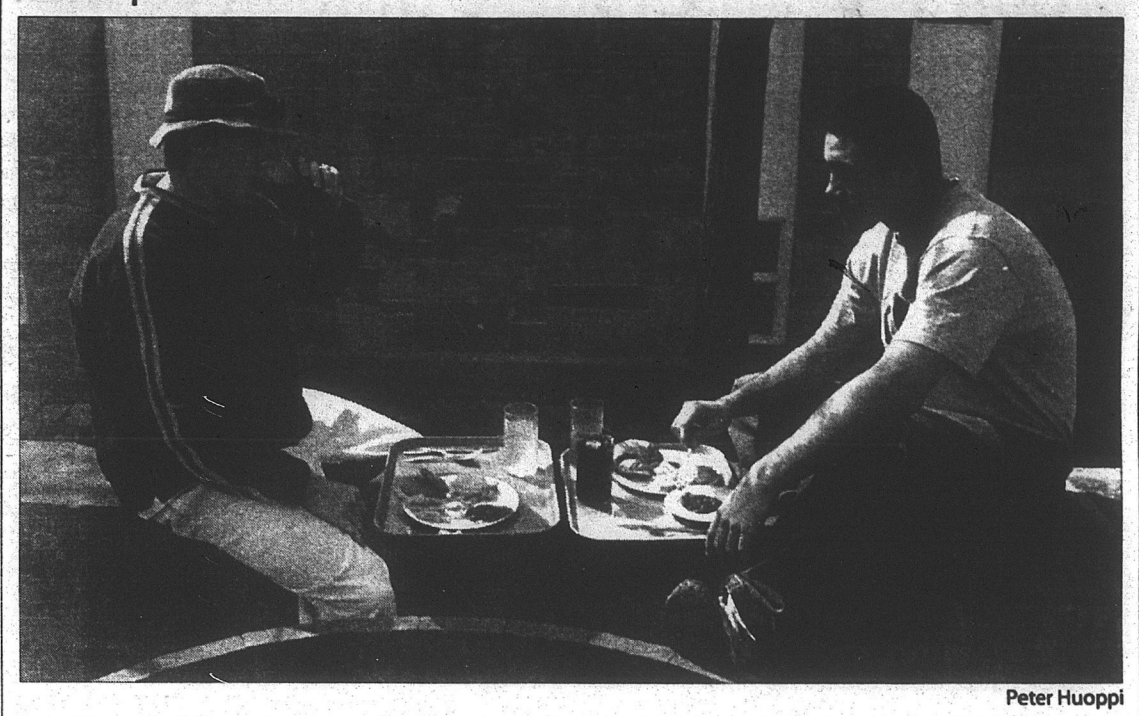
Hanson reacted to the proposal by accepting all the proposals except those dealing with the pledge class. On this issue, Hanson moved to have the pledge class dissolved.

Responding to the decision, KDR president Matt Elder expressed "disappointment [that the IHC] recommendation to continue with pledge was not accepted,... but Dean Hanson does what she has to do." Elder went on to point out that the entire situation "is not a good thing for the system, [but] hopefully this situation will keep this from happening again." Silverman echoed Elder's concern, "It's unfortunate that the [ZOO and KDR] violations occurred" so close together "but we need to learn from our mistakes to prevent these violations [from occurring in the future]."

When asked if Hanson's intervention in both the ZOO and KDR decisions highlighted a flaw in the social house self-governance system under the IHC, Silverman rejected any such interpretation. "Some will see it as a flaw; some will see it as the system acting as it was designed to work," with the IHC recommending a course of action to Hanson rather than being overruled by her.

On the positive side for KDR, they will be able to hold their annual Pig Roast event which, ironically, was canceled last year after concerns over violations of college alcohol policy.

Proctor picnic



Peter Huoppi

Basking in the long-awaited spring sunshine, *students enjoyed the opportunity to spend time outdoors after being cooped up all winter. The campus was littered with people eating, studying and playing outside.*

Middlebury nominees receive Watson fellowship

(continued from page 1)

towards displaying animals and how public and recreational spaces are treated in general.

Hankins was quite pleased and relieved to learn she had received the fellowship. "It was finally nice to know what my plans were and to tell all the people that had offered me jobs that I'd be traveling all year!" she said.

Hankins plans to leave in August after working for a time in Vermont after graduation and taking a cross-country road trip.

Mauro, an Environmental Studies major with a conservation biology focus, will be traveling to Ghana, Australia, and Bhutan to study "The Role of Creation Stories in the Perception of the Natural World." He will spend time with indigenous peoples in each country, studying their folklore and examining how their myths and stories affect their perception of nature and ecology. He plans to record stories and tales he hears and take photographs, which he hopes to gather into a multimedia presentation with slides and recorded stories that he will present to schoolchildren.

Mauro graduated in February and is currently traveling in Italy. Later this spring he will travel to Alaska to work on a Web-based outreach program for high-school children that he created as his thesis at Middlebury. The project grew out of the research project of his advisor, Assistant Professor of Biology Andrea Lloyd, who studied the effect of global warming and climate change on the Seward Peninsula in Western Alaska, an area populated by many native peoples. Mauro worked on a web site that explained the project to the local children.

In Alaska, he will work with the children to teach them about the project and the environment as well as begin to collect oral histories from the village elders. He will leave for his fellowship in July or August.

Saldana, an English major with a creative writing focus, will be spending her twelve months in Jerusalem, Rome and Assisi, Italy exploring "Writing within the Christian Millennium." She plans to write poetry inspired by these cities and their Christian heritage, as well as by the Bible as literature.

In addition, she will be in the unique position to witness the pilgrimages that many Christians will make to these cities in celebration of 2000 years of Christianity. She will spend five months in Jerusalem and Rome and two months in Assisi.

When she learned she had received the fellowship, she was ecstatic. "I was so glad I saw someone I knew in the mailroom because I was afraid I would have to hug a stranger!" she said.

Saldana plans to leave in mid-July after a trip to Alaska with friends.

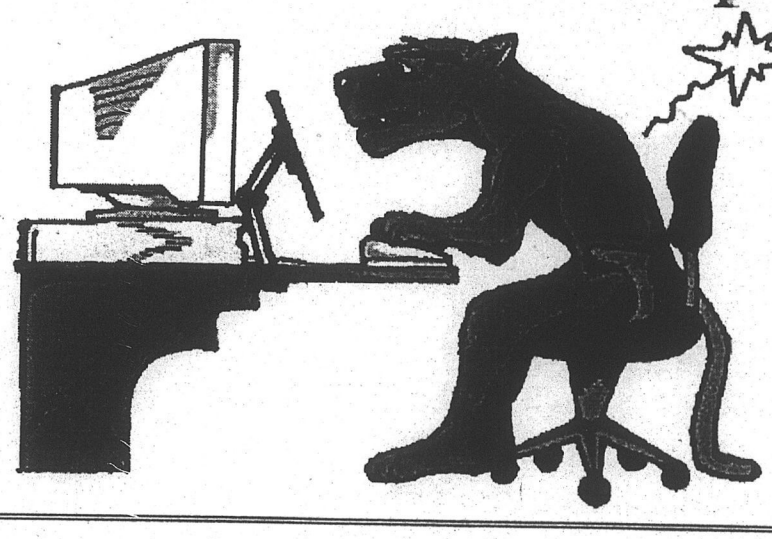
SGA Briefs

1. MiddRides is looking to hire drivers, driver's assistant, and a dispatcher. The service will run from Sunday through Thursday, 8:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m. Please call Jason Oleet (x4580) or Blake Rutherford (x4733) if you are interested in any of these positions.

2. The General Assembly passed a bill to implement on-line access to grades. Although Information Technology Services is busy dealing with the Y2K problem at present and it is doubtful that this semester's grades will be posted on-line, they hope to have the system running by the fall.

3. The General Assembly passed a bill that would enable students to vote for SGA candidates on the web during a 24 hour voting window. This initiative will hopefully increase voter turnout and encourage the participation of students who are studying abroad. With this year's elections only three weeks away, it is unlikely that the system will be ready before next year.

Middlebury College's
ERGONOMICS
Homepage



CHECK IT OUT!
www.middlebury.edu/~hr/ergo

In an effort to increase employee awareness of ergonomic concerns in the workplace, the Human Resources Office has created an Ergonomics web page. This new information source is intended to be interactive, offering regular news and information updates to employees as well as ways to better utilize on-campus resources. Because the web page is in its initial stages, we encourage you to visit the site and give us your feedback. If you have suggestions, questions, or would like to have a workstation analysis performed, contact Liz Kafer in Human Resources at ext. 5466 or by e-mail. **Web design and graphics by Kevin Manfredi '00.**

Monk reveals Chinese human rights violations against Tibetans

(continued from page 1)

were lucky if we were taken out to work because we could eat leaves, worms and rats," said Gyatso. "I ate my leather shoes and [shared them with] my friends. That was how I survived." When there were border wars or disturbances outside the prison, even more prisoners died because they were not allowed outside and they could not have the meat or grass which sustained them.

Gyatso shared the story of his friend Llap Sang, who asked for water. Gyatso told him that there was no water but Sang repeatedly asked for it. Gyatso rubbed his tongue against his teeth to produce his saliva and pressed his mouth on Sang's, who swallowed it.

"If you do not die in prison, you must work for the independence of Tibet," Sang told his friend before he died. Gyatso said that Sang, who had a wife and children, was "so overwhelmed with the killing of his brothers and sisters in Tibet that he did not mention his family but [only] Tibet's freedom."

When he was released from Drapchi Prison in Lhasa to go into exile in India in 1992, he smuggled instruments of torture like the ones which had been used on him. He showed the audience handcuffs and thumb-cuffs, which were used because there were not enough handcuffs for the number of Tibetans arrested. These restraints are different from ordinary handcuffs because they cannot open and have teeth that become tighter. The prisoners' feet are also chained, making it impossible for the prisoners to resist.

From 1959 to1987, the method of torture that the Chinese employed consisted of tying and burning their prisoners. The Chinese were continually trying to come up with new methods of torture that inflicted more pain on the prisoners so that they would accept the Chinese communist/socialist ideology.

Gyatso said that the prisoners were called individually for so-called "interrogation sessions," in which they would kneel on sharp rocks and shards of glass. A typical question, he said, was "On March 10, 1959, you shouted... 'Tibet for Tibet,' and in prison, we have re-educated you. Do you accept the ideology that Tibet is part of China?"

When the prisoners denied it, two guards would tie their arms so tightly with rope that their skin popped out between the ropes and shoulders would come out of their sockets. They would hang the prisoners upside-down over an open flame, pour boiling water on them or hit them with steel rods. Sometimes, the guards would rub chili powder into the wounds. The prisoners never received medical treatment. Regardless of their health, they had to continue to do hard labor. Those who stumbled and could not stand were proclaimed dead and put in a ditch for prisoners' bodies.

"I cried. I felt a lot of pain," said Gyatso, "but there were men and women prisoners who were so strong, they said to the guards, 'Even if you cut a piece of me, day by day, I will never accept that Tibet is a part of China.'"

Gyatso also showed the audience cattle prods, electric shock guns made in China. These cattle prods, which were used on the prisoners, release over 100,000 volts of power.

Gyatso said that his most excruciating torture experience occurred in October of 1990. When coerced again to accept Communist ideology, Gyatso said, "In all these years, you have never listened to me. It's useless for me to speak, so I won't say anything." The guards opened his mouth and inserted the cattle prod in his mouth. He regained consciousness days later with his clothes covered in excrement and blood, his tongue burned and a month later, all his teeth fell out of his mouth.

> **I cried. I felt a lot of pain, but there were men and women prisoners who were so strong, they said to the guards, "Even if you cut a piece of me, day by day, I will never accept that Tibet is a part of China."**
>
> **—Palden Gyatso**

These cattle prods were used also on female prisoners, mostly young nuns, who were tortured and raped. Because of the torture, many of the prisoners could not escape into exile because of their poor physical health.

Many prisoners committed suicide, and many were executed. After the execution, the Chinese government would contact the prisoner's family, making them pay the cost of the bullets, the length of the rope and the wooden plank.

Gyatso describes these atrocities in his book, "The Autobiography of a Tibetan Monk," which was translated by Tsering Shakya and published by Grove Press in 1997. To date, it has been translated into 11 languages.

Although the book was also translated in Hindi, the Chinese government said that the publication's release in India would threaten the Indian-Chinese relationship. "When the book came out, the Chinese government called me a liar," said Gyatso. "The day they prove I am lying will be the happiest day of my life."

Since 1992, Gyatso has traveled and spoken extensively about the atrocities that the Chinese government has committed against the Tibetan people. In 1995 he gave evidence at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva and testified before the United Nations and the U.S. Congress about the human rights abuses he had suffered. In 1996, he conducted a 300-mile walk from the Chinese consulate in Washington D.C. to the United Nations in New York City.

While Gyatso's lecture left many students horrified and outraged at the Chinese government's malignancy, other students chose to focus on his courage and determination. Throughout his talk, Gatsyo was composed and showed no sign of anger.

"While the stories that Palden translated to us are hard to digest, his energy, spirit and perseverance serve as a symbol for optimism," said Corey Bills '01, President of Students for a Free Tibet. "My hope for Middlebury College, I think, was put best by Palden Gyatso, when he urged us to remain optimistic and to continue to use the knowledge... that we gain to support human and rights and social justice."

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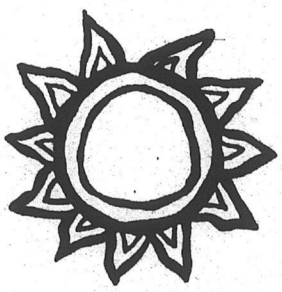

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Campus Security Log

The Department of Public Safety responded to the following incident reports.

03/07/99 Received a report of vandalism in the Center for the Arts.
03/10/99 Responded to a report of student driving on the sidewalk between Battell and Sunderland.
03/11/99 Received a report of vandalism in Lower A lot.
03/11/99 Received a report of a stolen tape recorder from Proctor.
03/12/99 Responded to a report of an illegal party in Stewart.
03/13/99 Received a report of stolen license plates from a vehicle parked in the Geonomics Lot.
03/13/99 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student outside of the Health Center.
03/13/99 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student in McGullough.
03/13/99 Received a report of a stolen jacket.
03/14/99 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student in Pearsons Lounge.
03/14/99 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student in Proctor.
03/14/99 Responded to a report of an intoxicated student in Gifford Lounge.
03/14/99 Responded to a report of stolen license plates from a vehicle parked by Stewart.

If you have any information on the above incidents, please contact the Department of Public Safety at x-5911 or x-5133.

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Editorial

Bridging the Gap

The Human Relations Committee, formed by President McCardell to systematically assess the campus climate on a number of diversity related issues, released a report this week that provides, for the first time, a framework through which Middlebury can build a more unified and diverse campus.

The report offers numerous tangible suggestions, some of which are more useful or feasible than others, on how exactly Middlebury should address these types of issues. The report also demonstrates, however, just how estranged from the Administration the student body feels. Despite the fact that Middlebury's current programs to increase and support diversity compare favorably with other similar institutions, the HRC found "the level of dissatisfaction among our students to be higher than at some of our peer institutions."

The report cites a "sense of goodwill and cooperation" between students and administrators on other campuses that appeared "to have developed from the feeling that student opinions are valued and because they participate in shaping important community decisions." On page after page in the report, the HRC returns to the communications problems that exist between students and administrators here at Middlebury when it comes to issues of diversity. Unfortunately, this is not a problem that is confined to diversity issues.

Two notable examples other than the ones outlined in the HRC report illustrate clearly how a lack of communication has unnecessarily bred resentment and built bitterness between the Administration and the student body. The most recent was the two month saga of Sigma Epsilon's reinstatement petition. For seven weeks President McCardell evaluated the merits of the proposal. He met with a variety of persons and groups during that time to help him determine the correct response.

The issue is not whether that time was justified or necessary, but rather his failure to address the concerns raised by students in a timely and forthright manner. It was no secret that students felt he was stalling, but rather than counteract that sentiment by publicly explaining the reasons why the decision was taking so long, he chose to try to ride out the criticism and hope it would blow over. The result was increased disenchantment among students, not because of the content of his decision, but because of the manner in which it was carried out.

The second example of this communications gap was the initiation of the Commons system, which still resonates with students as an example of the Administration ignoring the opinions of students who disagreed with the Administration's agenda. Again, the issue is not the veracity of that feeling. In fact, most students who have worked closely with the Administration on this undertaking have a sense that the Administration is concerned with the opinions of its students and are looking out for each student's best interests. Yet the fact remains that the majority of students feel marginalized and disconnected from the process.

The recommendations of the Human Relations Committee offer a tremendous opportunity both to improve the diversity of the campus and to facilitate the integration of that diversity into an interactive whole. If the Administration truly wants to build a diverse and cohesive student body, however, it must lead by example. It must demonstrate that it takes the needs of students seriously and will act accordingly. It must restore the lines of communication if it wants to re-bridge the gap between the student body and the Administration that currently plagues the school's atmosphere.

The Middlebury Campus

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Midd-Life Crisis
Zach Sinick
OUTSIDE THE McCARDELL HOUSE...
WE WANT OUR VOICES TO BE HEARD!
SHOW SOME RESPECT FOR OUR OPINION!
SHOW ME SOMEONE WHO LIKES THE COMMONS PLAN & I'LL SHOW YOU SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T GO TO MARLBOROUGH!
KILL THE PARKING!
HOLD UP! LOOK!
SUGGESTION BOX
WOW, HE DOES CARE!
HAND ME SOME OF THAT PAPER!
BOYCOTT PROTESTS NOW!
FREE TUITION!
HEY...
THIS IS TOILET PAPER!
APRIL FOOLS! HA!

Chini calls for student wishes to be heard

"There is a time for discussion and there is a time for action. The discussion has gone long enough and now we must act." How many times has John McCardell used this tag line to begin talking about the school's new commons system? It's a pretty amazing line when one considers we've actually not had a discussion on the commons system since I came here in 1996. Yes, we've held discussions last year on how to implement such a system, but not once have we discussed whether the new plan was needed. The reason for this is clear; outside of being a useful marketing tool for the Bicentennial Campaign, the Enhanced Common System is not needed.

First off, the idea of a commons system is great for schools such as Yale and Harvard where the urban environment tends to draw students away from college life. But in a rural location with a student body of 2,350 students, the extra social and academic options provided for by this new commons system aren't needed yet. To really understand this, one need only look at the commons system of today, which in its first seven years has had what could be described as moderate success at best. Membership in commons councils varies greatly based on what housing options are available for those who continue, and a vast number of students don't even have a clue what commons they are in. Proponents of the new commons system argue that unless we create mandatory continuing commons, decentralized dining, proximate faculty etc., no commons identity will develop. But if the administration thinks that the system needs to be forced on the students in order for them to like it, they're tacitly admitting there is no need for it.

Secondly, this whole process has made it abundantly clear that the administration and the trustees are woefully out of touch with the realities of social and residential life at Middlebury. In the Board of Trustees resolution supporting the new system, they state "students and faculty have spoken in overwhelming support of the three distinguishing features of the proposed residential system (decentralized dining, mandatory continuing commons, and faculty proximity)." How many students have they talked to? Students at this college love the freedom they have in controlling their lives beyond academics. Unlike many others, I

(see Chini, page 8)

Letters to the Editor

Claypool defends 'Gaia' production

I am writing in response to the March 17 *Campus* article entitled "Reaching heavenward, 'Gaia' fails to transcend." I am writing because the article focused on only one "scene" of an entire "play," so to speak. As a member of the theater department, I am of course interested in arts coverage in our campus newspaper, as it reflects the quality and nature of our work, not just in the theater department, but in all areas of the arts that we study here at Middlebury. What I refer to as the "play" was the "Celebration and Symposia: Lives in the Arts: Honoring Alumnae Artists of Middlebury College," which was not even accurately titled in the article. The Symposia, held on March 12 and 13, was a celebration of female alumns and the work they have accomplished since their time at Midd. I say the phrase "female alums" because the poster, reading "alumnae," evidently wasn't clear enough.

The Symposia encompassed two days of events that were as varied as the areas of the arts that we choose to explore. It included poetry readings by Ofelia Barrios '93, Sarah Messer '88, and Suzanne Wise '87, as well as an exhibit by visual artists Jessica Nissen '90 and Julia Wachtel '78, and "Gaia," a dance performance (as reported). It also offered two panel discussions, with participation by such alumnae as Ana Reeder '93, Anna Belknap '94, Plummy Tucker '87, Natlaya Baldyga '91, Alyssa Gallin '92 and Andrea Schaefer '91. The Symposia took advantage of circumstance and invited the author, Eve Ensler, and the cast of "The Vagina Monologues," to participate in a "Vagina Dialogues" roundtable. It shocks me that in a lengthy report of a 30 minute event there is not one mention of the larger whole. The writer mentions nothing of the brilliant reading given by our talented and well-known alumnus Julia Alvarez '71. Nor does she mention the moving reading of the new play of Eve Ensler '75, "Necessary Targets." I am especially surprised at this last feat, simply because Ensler is the author of "The Vagina Monologues," an event that took place in McCullough (and around the world) only a month before her arrival at Middlebury. Not a word was said of the Isabelle Eberhardt Project, another work in progress by Andra Harbold '94, who directed the first-year play this fall, "The Gravity of Means." Most of all, the writer fails to mention that "Gaia" was a work in progress and was here to provide a venue for current students to gain contacts and

(see Claypool, page 8)

Announcements

The Middlebury Campus is currently accepting applications for the position of Sports Editor for the Spring Term. Applications are available in The Campus office. If you have any questions please call The Campus office at x5736

O'Donohoe recognizes traditions' differences

There are few things in this world that are constant. One of them is change. My class, '99, is the last who remember the old phone mail system of "star sixing" a message. 1997 was the last class without

Brendan O'Donohoe '99

the "New Dorms," which still bears their christening. The class of '02 will be the last to remember games in the old hockey rink (by the way, thanks guys, five in a row was a tough streak to continue), and life in the old social houses. And the list goes on. How many of you guys remember Proctor without the salad bar, or bringing your food across the hall to the "old Crest Room." How many remember the nights of eating candy in the Crest Room, before the Grille? How many remember the April Fool's edition of the newspaper?

Well, these are all changes that have happened around here, that for the most part don't do anything but make for little idiosyncrasies between classes. Perhaps everything new about Middlebury is just a matter of those little materialistic nostalgias that we like to cling to, because they have become such a part of our routine that they define us, like our old Proctor glasses. Perhaps they are just outdated things that should be replaced by the better. We all forlornly hope that our new commons system will be just one of those.

This spring break, though, I found out what the difference between meaningless and meaningful meant in terms of tradition. It was the Saturday immediately followed St. Patrick's Day. For years as a child I remember that day. I would be put to bed by my mother, whose subtle perfume confused me, and who always looked a little evil to me masked in her red rouge, dark mascara, and too bright lips. She was going out. Then I was old enough to stay awake until they left. I could see that she didn't need the paint to show she was alive. I never said anything, though, because the TV was on, and I didn't want to miss whatever it was that I can't remember now.

My sisters soon grew old enough to begin Irish step dancing, and every Thursday with glum faces they pranced to "One Two Three" and three-hand reels. I remember thinking what a ridiculous bunch of music they listened to. Why couldn't they jump up and down to Poison, or White Snake? Why did they have their hands fixed to their sides, pretending to be caught in some modified straight jackets? This wasn't as good as Solid Gold. But eventually they got good enough to dance at this mystical party that every year my parents attended, and I wanted to go, too. I, however, possessed no marketable Irishness to ingratiate myself on them. I was a "narrowback."

It was now a tradition. My sisters in their flamboyant dresses of scarlet and green with the square lace collar, whimsical embroidery, long sleeves but skirts that only came to one's knees and a frivolous sash that was pinned up with some glittery broach, were about to become a part of it. Despite my scowl, my mother applied the rouge to each sister's smiling face, but assiduously denied the eye shadow. Then my father would stand at the open door flapping one arm like a broken seagull and intone "Cummon, cummon, cummon" until it became a Gregorian chant. They would finally all get into the car when my father had traded his voice for the instrument of the car horn, which he piped with volume, if not skill. Then my brother and I would look at each other and I would chase him until I caught him. Then I would pummel him, angered that they thought they knew what I was going to feel, that they presumed I would be bored and just "fidget." When they tried to show me the dancing on video the next day I wouldn't let them; the A-team was on, and I knew I would be bored.

This Saturday, though, I got the invitation. My mother put on her rouge while my father was up at the hall running the whole thing, and then we went. Something felt wrong, though.

There was no honking of the horn, no bright kilts, and no brother to beat on. We got in the car and drove up without incident.

We walked inside and there was not a face in there that was below the age of 40. Most men had the gray hairs of care, while women had theirs dyed to cover that care. Mr. Flaherty was across the table, Mr. Walsh to my left, and a bunch of unknowns to my right. "What do you do," I asked an unknown. "Construction," he replied musically, merrily, out of his small Galway mouth. The "fella" to his right was also in construction, and so was the next fella, and the next, but the last painted. Everyone sat around and looked while their wives talked about the unbelievable merits of their children. "Brian decided to play football for CM. No, Fionnuala would never work there." I felt bored.

Mr. Flaherty, the notorious golfer, who had been mugged at Franklin Park and then stayed to finish the round, brought me my first Guinness.

(see Student, page 8)

Dougherty wants present students' voice heard

The current state of our college is one of transition. We are on the brink of major change and development which will last for the next decade because our administration has ambitious goals to

Toby Dougherty '00

significantly change Middlebury. While the long term goals are commendable, the short term implications for students who are on campus today are serious. Someone, perhaps our Student Government Association, needs to take an active role in representing the present students needs here on campus. Take, for example, the current state of residential life. It is becoming steadily more apparent that a significant portion of Middlebury's administration does not view social houses and academic interest houses as compatible with the future commons system. This has serious implications for students who are here today. First, any student group interested in proposing an academic interest or social house is strongly discouraged and even forbidden to submit a proposal for that house. Second, those who have already submitted proposals are faced with a lot of difficulty. Finally, those houses which already exist are finding themselves more and more under the administration's attack.

The current house proposals under consideration by the administration include a Gender Studies house and Xenia, a substance free social house. Last spring, each was granted non-residential status for a year along with some form of communal space. Gender Studies has been given an unattractive space in the basement of Forest with which, to their credit, they have done an excellent job. They have shown both initiative and ability to make their program succeed. However, they have not been given the residential space which they see as a significant component to a Gender Studies house. It is hard to believe that Xenia, although ambitious in its program to found and expand a new social house, is expected to do so without the asset of a house. The complicating factor for these groups is the fact that the college is changing its residential structure so dramatically that the administration argues that it is uncertain as to how the groups will fit into the new system. The administration's answer has been to withhold residential space now on the grounds that it is unclear as to how that space will be used in the coming decades. So the groups of today are left in limbo to wait several years for the commons to develop. That's great, except that students are only here for four years and when the development period is measured in decades their entire college career is marginalized.

Equally, if not more frightening, is the mounting offensive on the current social houses by the administration. One who believes that the termination of Sigma Epsilon is an isolated event harbors a false belief. There is a trend developing, which began with the discontinuation of DKE, spread to Sig Ep and, if left unchecked, will plague every other social house. Can we really believe that security's hitherto unprecedented surprise inspections of KDR are mere coincidence? Is it merely by chance that KDR has suddenly lost its ability to run pledge as a result of one such raid? Let's be reasonable: What would be a better way to kill a social house than discontinuing its pledge—the same method used on Sig Ep? There is a trend, and it's no accident.

There is a solution and it seems to look something like the following. First, rather than being put in a terminal holding pattern and asked to watch their valuable founding members leave, the houses which have submitted applications for residential status should receive it in a timely manner at least on a temporary basis. The Human Relations Committee recommended the establishment of non-permanent special interest housing within the commons which would support groups that are currently perceived as being in need of special support (PALANA, Xenia, Gender Studies). The groups which have been denied housing thus far should receive it... at least temporarily. Though the plan to postpone these groups to death may seem attractive based on a little uncertainty about the commons' future, the students here now and involved in them deserve better.

The current social and academic interest houses (yes, that includes PALANA, Weybridge and all the language houses), in order to survive the administration's less than disguised attack, need to be actively defended. For this kind of defense we, the students, need a strong SGA.

To conclude, there is such a powerful long-term initiative on the part of the administration that it poses a threat to abuse students here in the short run. If we expect to be defended at all, it would make sense that the Student Government should make the interests of students here and now its primary goal because those interests are not being defended elsewhere. Case in point is the house system. Middlebury students have worked hard to get here and make real sacrifices to stay here. It is senseless to deny the current students the resources that are currently available on the basis that the administration is unsure as to how those resources will be used in decades to come. The SGA needs to loose its partisan character and be reminded of its goals as the voice of the students; its primary cause needs to be strong support for the students here and now.

Olson expresses frustrations with commons system changes

I don't really know if it is my place to criticize at this point because I have never been involved in any of the SGA conversations about the commons systems, although I do have an

Amy Olson '99

opinion on the matter. I don't like it! I do not intend this to be a negative article, but I am frustrated with the way this new expansion program is being implemented. The most recent move by the administration to reserve 50 percent of the beds in each commons for active members in the commons system is a really manipulative move. As the editor of the *Campus* pointed out, no other extra curricular activity on campus gives incentives for participation like a good room. Room draw (contrary to the administration's beliefs) is a very stressful time and if being on the commons board will ease the process, that is reason enough to participate in the commons system even if one does not really like the whole structure.

I tried to get involved in my commons sophomore year, and I didn't like it. I did not like serving my community in that capacity. I found other outlets like the Mountain Club and EQ were more my style. The administration is blatantly trying to push its agenda on a student body that really doesn't want to participate in expanding Middlebury. Why shouldn't I get a better room because I'm involved in the Mountain Club and want a better view of the mountains to which I have to plan trips on the weekends? It doesn't make sense.

There are many things about this new expansion plan that don't make sense—how can we expand and at the same time try to keep that small community feeling? It doesn't work both ways. I understand the fundament behind revamping the commons system and applaud the sentiment that we should get more involved in the lives of the people who teach us to form a more cohesive community. However, I think we should concentrate on the larger issue. Why are we expanding this school? Is it because it will bring in more money as we push towards the next century and need to meet ever rising educational costs? Is it because it will keep us on the cutting edge with a larger bureaucracy to deal with? I don't understand.

I came to Middlebury because it is small and I have the opportunity to talk to my professors when I have a problem with a paper, or need advice on the best place to go abroad. I know it is selfish, but I didn't want to be competing with grad school students for attention. I wanted to get to know everyone in my class. The Middlebury I came to four years ago is not the Middlebury that I will be graduating from in May, and it makes me sad. I understand that change has to take place, but I am not happy with the changes that I see, especially in the attitude of the administration toward anyone who voices opposition to their new plan.

What is happening at Middlebury can be compared to the West moving into third-world countries to develop them. Why do Western countries do this? Because they see potential profit! The local people are rarely a part of these development plans because they are not considered educated enough or able to see beyond to what will benefit them in the future by becoming part of the global economy. Perhaps our situation at Middlebury is not that severe, but there are many seniors

(see Olson, page 8)

Chini takes a realistic look at the changes in the commons system

(continued from page 6)

don't believe that the new commons system will leave Middlebury irrevocably changed. If we implement this new system, students are simply going to ignore the damn thing, leaving McCardell & Co. to wonder where their money and their grand visions went. No matter how much the administration would like to create an academic utopia here at Middlebury, that's simply not what Middlebury is or should be. I lived and worked in Atwater Commons for two years and really enjoyed my time there. But the reason I enjoyed being a council member and chair of the commons, and learned so much from it wasn't because of my experience living in "a community of scholars," but rather my role and freedom in helping to create and better that community. By forcing students to accept a commons system they clearly don't want yet, we are betraying one of the basic ideals Middlebury should teach students: In the real world, opportunity, and professors don't come to your doorstep, and decisions on where to live aren't made for you. This very idea is the last of Middlebury's five peaks of excellence: "[to create] opportunities for students to apply what they learn about the liberal arts to real world situations." So the hard question then becomes well if we don't implement decentralized dining, proximate housing and mandatory continuing commons, what might we do? Quite a bit. For one we should start to give the commons real control over their dorms, rebuild student government along commons lines, and invite the faculty to take an active role on the commons councils. Let the student body and the res-life staff take the lead in innovating and developing residential life. If the students really begin to like the commons system then and only then should the school commit itself to providing the massive physical infrastructure and administrative decentralization necessary to support it. In the meantime the school can focus on fixing the real, immediate problems that it has been ignoring while it's been lost in commons-land, namely a lack of dorm space and quality housing. Our school's residential life system today is one of the best, primarily because it is so responsive to students' needs and concerns. If the students show a great desire for a more expansive commons system, res-life should be free to respond to those requests. In so doing we would teach students that active involvement in their life outside of classes is important and can result in change. But while we wait for that to happen we have the opportunity to discuss, as an entire school, what might be the best type of residential system for Middlebury, commons or not.

Doug Chini is currently a member of the class of 1999.

Olson calls for student action on the commons issue

(continued from page 7)

with whom I have had conversations who do not like what they see. However these students feel that their complaints, even if they had time to voice them between thesis chapters, would not be heard. The message coming from the administration is that students (locals) do not know what is best for them, so the administration will decide and in the process treat us like children, with the ARC proposal and the implementation of the commons room draw.

Student voice has been an issue for the four years that I have been here. I feel that there have been improvements in this realm, but it must be made stronger. Many students have lost faith in the SGA, because even when we had outspoken dynamic President Stratton, the administration took no notice and did not change its course in implementing its plan. The administration has proved to me that the people who really matter are the trustees. The ones with the money to fund the projects. It seems that the only way to make a change at Middlebury is to be the one who will sign the check. I have seen bankers walking around our campus assessing whether Middlebury will be a sound investment or not. Next thing we know we'll be on the stock market and people will be buying shares of Middlebury stock based on what senior thesis will get published.

Perhaps I'm too idealistic, but I think the administration should ask and actually listen to what the students have to say about expanding the campus. If McCardell is implementing this project for the good of the students I sure don't see it yet. Do the trustees know that the students, who have to live with all of these decisions, do not want a larger school? Why has there been so little student-trustee conversation? Doesn't the administration trust us to voice our opinions intelligently to these people? If we are who these people are investing in, why can't we tell them how we want to live or be educated?

This brings me to my last point. If Middlebury is a place that wants to foster growth, then students should be allowed to take control of their lives not only in terms of whether or not they want a larger school, but also in terms of what extra curricular activities they want to be involved in and in what type of environment they want to live. A common theme coming from the administration this year is that students are irresponsible and need more supervision. It seems that we need a code of conduct to sign before we are able to be trusted to not say mean things to each other (ARC) and we need more adult supervision so that we won't do anything crazy like drink on the weekends. We have to be allowed to make mistakes so that we can make the decision to change things in our lives. My mistake obviously is that I did not get involved in this decision on the expansion of Middlebury sooner, but the truth be known I thought it was such a silly non-issue when it first came up I put my time in to other things like school work and the Mountain Club. My mistake. I hope someone in the younger classes will read this letter and take an active role to change the current trend of expansion of this school.

DiMaria analyzes student challenges and ambitions

I will try to resist, however tempting it may be to exalt the newly arrived, majestic mugs in Proctor, and not mention them at all. Instead, I will dwell on the mundane, the innocuous, and the everyday; for example: midterms, athletics, trouble with relationships, general hardships, and others. These issues become mundane games because we must make them so. It soon becomes apparent to American Person that life cannot be taken too seriously. So, we transform our grandiose issues into smaller ones by detaching the long-term significance of an event, and turn it into a sort of game or contest. Especially for those maniacally driven to succeed, each "test" can take on monumental importance and actually damage the chances one has of doing well. Scholastics are perfectly set up to facilitate this trivialization. Each exam or evaluation can be culled from the course as a whole and addressed independently from all the feelings of ambition that may be damaging to a lucid mind during test time. The event remains as important as ever, but our perception of it lessens its moment to a manageable degree.

Mike DiMaria '99.5

As teenagers learning to cope with the challenges of school and the rest, athletics provided a model system from which the ability to normalize momentous events was learned. In fact, these skills transcend nearly every aspect of life. We confront challenges in this way, knowingly or not. It appears at times that those who more effectively distance the consequences from the challenge find success more easily. Consider the athlete who takes each shot thinking only about making the shot itself, and not the outcome of missing the shot on the game. Very few players can achieve this sort of causal isolation, but those who do generally find more success. We base our reaction to challenges of all types on this paradigm, including the challenges in our personal lives. Each snag in our master plan must be mended or subverted using this technique.

We must adjust for the specific parameters of each competition, but overall the game plan often remains the same. There are opponents, rules, goals, and strategies that transcend many different challenges—such as the "bad day" rationalization. Often, we allow ourselves a few major errors without becoming too upset; this is a good way to stay on task and not loose composure. Often the time frame varies, but the thought process remains intact. If we miss a shot, then "it's just one shot -- no big deal. I'll hit the next one." If we get a zero on a quiz, then "no problem, I'll get a ten on the next one." It's a technique we learn in one contest and apply to many others. Another technique we may call the "super-hero stand-in." This is a tool of last resort that can be used when we know we are hopelessly outmatched. By visualizing ourselves as capable, desperately trying to believe in our adequacy, our chances of success greatly increase (as opposed to the results of accepting defeat).

During lapses between contests, the down time allows us the opportunity to consider our future, the consequences of failure and the possibilities created by success. But when the time comes for performance, these visions must be set aside in order to delete their influence on the outcome of the project. In the vacuum that remains, other facets of life take on a curious importance, like those cups I'm not supposed to mention.

Claypool criticizes coverage of 'Gaia'

(continued from page 6)

get a glimpse of the ways in which Midd alumnae work in the 'real world.' This, after all, was the whole point. It is not evident that the writer or any *Campus* staff member talked with anyone involved with the Symposia to find this out. No one bothered to ask Cheryl Faraone or Mary Duffy, the two talented women who gave life to the idea of a Women's Symposia, what the impetus was for the whole affair. If one had, one might have learned that students are often asking how to make the transition into the professional world of their respective art field. One also might have learned that students would have the opportunity to be inspired, or at least informed in a new way, in and about their art. Importantly, one would have discovered that the event was aimed at women, and was made possible by Drue Gensler '56, who had such a hard time as a woman in her years here that she wanted to ensure that no other female student had such a struggle as hers. Again, women as the focus of the Symposia went unmentioned in the article. If one, on or off the campus staff, had read the many posters covering the *Campus*, one might have wondered if, for instance, the panel discussion, "Making a Life in the Arts: Women's Personal Journeys" had anything to do with any of the art forms presented on March 12 or 13. Instead, the *Campus* reviewed a single event. That "Gaia" was given a mediocre response does not concern me as much as the fact that the name of the event was misquoted and the *Campus* in general failed to see the one in light of the whole. The sum is, after all, the whole of its parts. And no other parts were present in that, or any other, article. This responsibility is not the writer's alone. If I am correct, it is the responsibility of a newspaper to inform itself of events on campus and review them appropriately, especially if that event took out an ad the previous week. I am disappointed in the lackadaisical approach taken by the *Campus* towards the Symposia. It is unfortunate that such a talented group of alumnae were received by so apathetic a student body and newspaper. So, while "Gaia" "failed to transcend," the *Campus* failed to report, and, of the two, the latter is unacceptable.

Beth Claypool is currently a member of the Middlebury College class of 1999.

Student compares special traditions to mundane ones

(continued from page 7)

When that had been drunk, I was no longer allowed to call him Mr. Flaherty, but Gerry, and Mr. Walsh, Paul. By the ninth we were all friends, and the stories about the old days were making the tears stream down my face. Like when Father McMara had caught the English band by the "belt of the lug and fired the two of them out the door for playing the wrong version of 'It's a Long Road to Tipperary' a' course!" And many others, too many others, too many lifetimes for just one night. Those I think are just for me.

The dancers came, their bright costumes replaced by the simple black of "Riverdance," the new fad. Gerry yelled out that I would fit right in. Then the Lebanese priest, father Haddad, appeared for a prayer, dressed all in his stiff black with his white collar. He had wanted me in the seminary. He was sick, and it was the first time he had been out in a year. He grasped my hand, not as firmly as once, and we smiled at each other as I noticed how thin he was. I had to blink away the word dying as it liquefied my vision. This was his favorite holiday he whispered in my ear at our parting hug, and I truly believed that "he was more Irish than any of us."

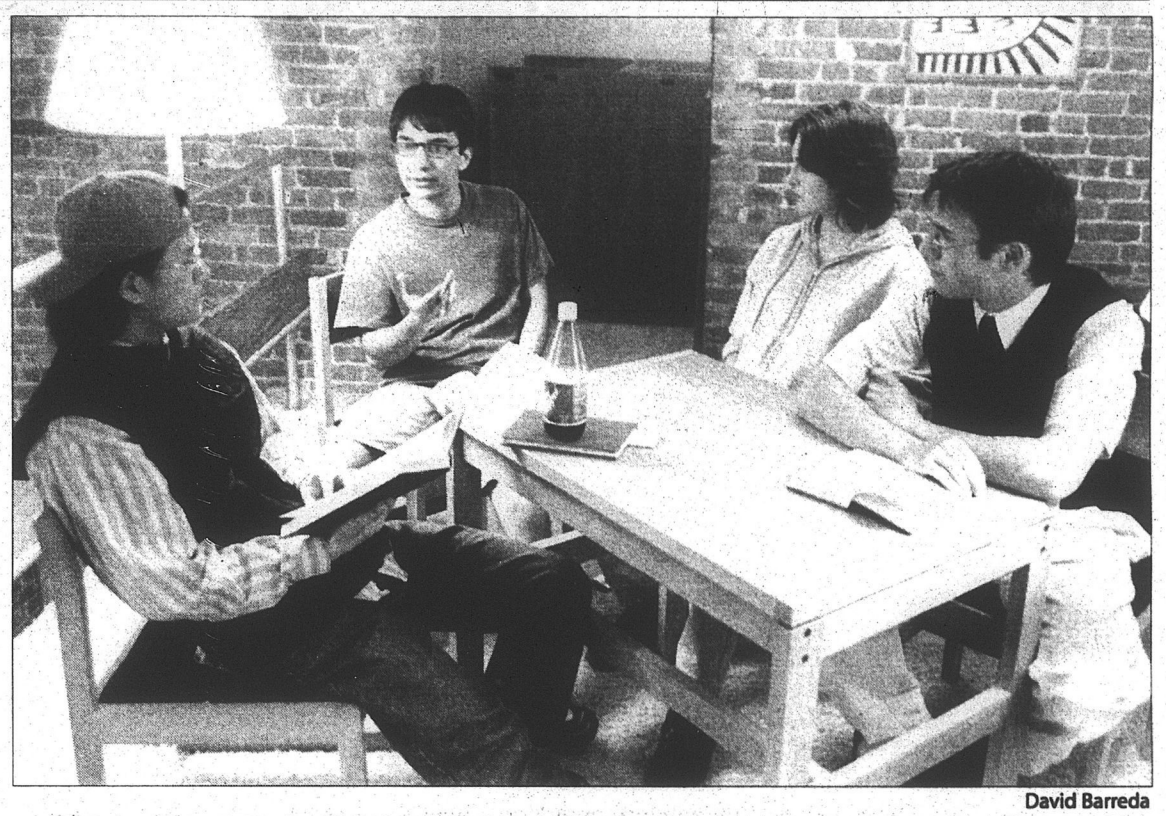
Some things that you might think of as traditions, like cups and commons, but they begin to seem so trivial after a while. But you never want to see a spirit of your youth enfeebled before you. You somehow want to keep those pictures in the hall of the fitness center alive. Those people have all changed though. I hope we can remember their stories, too.

Literary group provides forum to express views

By Kathleen Francis
Staff Writer

"What is the meaning of life?" is a question that will never be posed during a W.O.R.D. meeting, but rather, "What is the meaning of your life?"

Founded by Syed Masood '01, W.O.R.D., an acronym for Working On R Differences, is a recently organized student-run literary philosophy group which meets on Sundays for dinner to discuss interesting findings in literature and/or favorite literary pieces.



David Barreda

W.O.R.D. meets every Sunday night for dinner to spend quality time discussing literature and its relation to life.

There is nothing like W.O.R.D. on campus. It's really fun to be in a situation where you don't have to impress a professor... The people in the group are very insightful.

—Katherine Clark '01

"I had the idea to form W.O.R.D. a few months ago when I noticed that the whole problem at Middlebury is that the college has an immense division between academics and what's fun. With this club, I'm attempting to change that," said Masood.

"I don't want to generalize," he continued, "but so many people here are conservative about their liberal ideas, and that's paradoxical. Literature is about individuals and society, and since people are not creative enough about their being, I thought we could give people the opportunity to put their ideas on the table and dissect them."

Hence, W.O.R.D. came into being a little over a month ago, so far having held four meetings. Currently consisting of approximately 15 members, a typical meeting centers on thematic discussion from a subjective standpoint.

"We'll discuss poetry and put a poem on the table. Why it's important to us is not always what the critics are saying," said Masood. "This club is for moments when you are filled with passion, when you identify with a work of literature and want to share it with others, when you get a sense of beauty in yourself. I made this realization and thought, 'Why don't I share this beauty with someone else?'"

Yet Masood is aware that literature can mean something different to everyone, as is club member Katherine Clark '01.

"Everyone in this club has diverse backgrounds and comes from all different types of families. It's really interesting to be reading something and come upon a section with religious or sexual overtones," said Clark. "You can really see people's different values then. I've been blown away by what people think, both in good and bad ways."

However, Masood and Clark agree that a discussion group such as this one has been lacking on campus until now.

"There is nothing like [W.O.R.D.] on campus. It's really fun to be in a situation where you don't have to impress a professor, and the people in the group are very insightful," said Clark. "Everyone has an individual perspective to add to the group."

Masood pointed out, "The club is a time to be serious. Once you leave Middlebury, you'll never have this many friends to talk to again. This is a great time to talk about whatever you are learning."

W.O.R.D. is seeking approval by the college as an established organization. The club's constitution, financial budget and list of members were submitted to the Student Activities Office on Monday, March 15, and the club will hear of its approval or denial by the end of March.

Because the club is so new, its goals are difficult to define presently. "Basically, the constitution says our purpose is to have an open forum for discussion. We didn't want to impose too many restrictions on [W.O.R.D.] because I've found that a lot of groups have great ideas but get wrapped up in following rules they've set down," said Clark, who helped to compose the constitution.

Masood's goals for W.O.R.D.'s future include possibly showing films with literary content and inviting faculty members from different departments to aid in discussion. "We don't want it to be a seminar, but more interactive than that," said Masood.

W.O.R.D. currently meets every Sunday at 6 p.m. in Freeman Seminar Room One for dinner and discussion. Students are encouraged to bring literary pieces to discuss and share.

This club is for moments when you are filled with passion, when you identify with a work of literature and want to share it with others...

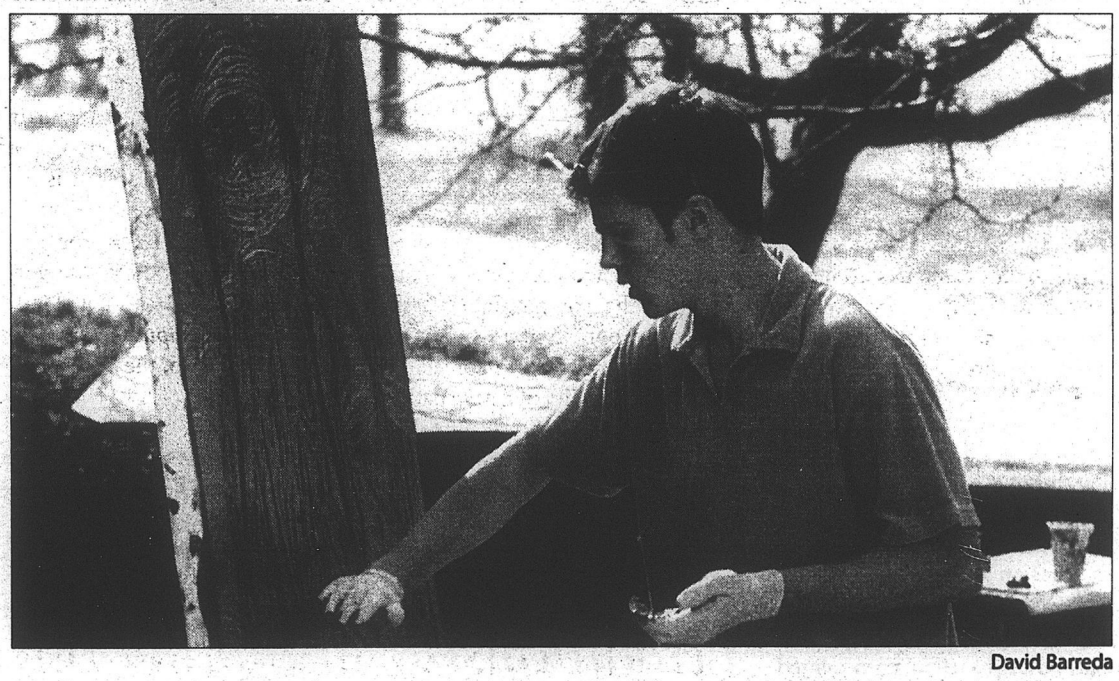
—Syed Masood '01

"This club means a lot to me," said Masood. "For the whole first year [at Middlebury], I couldn't find enough people to identify with. [W.O.R.D. doesn't] want similarity, and you don't have to agree with everyone's ideas."

W.O.R.D, while having informally met several times already, is having its first official and organized meeting this Sunday. The group plans to discuss absurdity in literature, and its relation to misfits in society. "I think we all feel a little absurd in certain situations," explained Masood. "This club is absorbed with life in every form and the relationship of that life to literature."

It is not necessary to read the literature the group is focusing on before the meetings. Instead, the group just focuses on certain passages. "Come, just as long as you are passionate about something," urged Masood.

The Artist's Touch



David Barreda

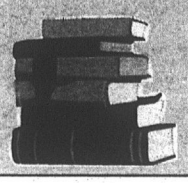
Absorbing the beauty of the outdoors and the warmth of the sun's rays, *Middlebury art students quit their studios and carried their canvases and easels into the open air to paint in nature's midst.*

Starr Library releases list of century's most influential books

To celebrate Starr Library's 100th anniversary and commemorate the close of the 20th century, Middlebury's Reference Librarian Patricia Gray prompted Middlebury students, faculty and staff to reflect on books first published in the 20th century. Through a campus-wide email, Gray asked which books influenced their thinking and actions and which ones they considered significant to our times. One hundred thirty-six students, 30 faculty members and 19 staff members responded anonymously to the survey. The most frequently named title by respondents? "The Great Gatsby." Here are the 25 most frequently mentioned books listed alphabetically by title.

—Raegan Randolph and Mary Tucker
Features Editors

- 1984
  George Orwell
- All Quiet on the Western Front
  Erich Maria Remarque
- Beloved
  Toni Morrison
- Brave New World
  Aldous Huxley
- Catch-22
  Joseph Heller
- Catcher in the Rye
  J. D. Salinger
- Collected Poems
  Robert Frost
- The Diary of Anne Frank
  Anne Frank
- The Fountainhead
  Ayn Rand
- The Grapes of Wrath
  John Steinbeck
- The Great Gatsby
  F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Heart of Darkness
  Joseph Conrad
- Invisible Man
  Ralph Ellison
- Lord of the Rings
  J. R. R. Tolkien
- On the Road
  Jack Kerouac
- One Hundred Years of Solitude
  Gabriel García Márquez
- Siddhartha
  Hermann Hesse
- Silent Spring
  Rachel Carson
- Slaughterhouse Five
  Kurt Vonnegut
- Song of Solomon
  Toni Morrison
- Their Eyes Were Watching God
  Zora Neale Hurston
- To Kill a Mockingbird
  Harper Lee
- To the Lighthouse
  Virginia Woolf
- Ulysses
  James Joyce
- Waiting for Godot
  Samuel Beckett



Students learn art of Russian cuisine

By Eniko Simon
Staff Writer

Do Middlebury students live to eat or eat to live?

The many who spend their days rushing from classes to sports practices and to many other extracurricular activities may only have minutes for eating, dashing into Proctor, Freeman or Hamlin for "fuel." Even those who have more time for indulging in a bountiful meal three times a day can find it difficult to appreciate their food, particularly in the "mess hall" environment of Proctor.

Yet, on occasion, there are special treats. The vigilant student can find alternative sources for special meals, as some did last Tuesday at a lecture sponsored by the Russian department entitled "The Lost Art of Eating Well." Guest speaker Darra Goldstein is a professor of Russian at Williams College and author of several books on Russian cuisine, including "A Taste of Russia," "The Vegetarian Heart," and "A La Russe: A Cookbook of Russian Hospitality."

Goldstein developed her interest in culinary Russia from extensive travel throughout the country. She spent a significant amount of time in Georgia, where she not only mastered the Russian language, but literally tasted the culture.

A professor at Williams since 1983, Goldstein specializes in what she simply calls "food." Her cookbooks strive to link Russian cooking with traditional lifestyles, illustrating how food plays a central role in the growth of culture. In her lecture, Goldstein recalled one of her first encounters with Russian food: "I was given a slice of black bread with a large chunk of "sala" (lard). It was the most delicious thing I have tasted."

Goldstein, captured by her Georgian experience, has made it a priority to share her taste of Russia. Goldstein spoke about the literary works of Nikolevtisch Gogol, connecting the art of Russian gastronomy with that of literature and emphasizing the importance of food as an element of Russian culture.

Gogol's novels celebrate the concept of eating. He connects the subject of his novels, the nature of rural life in Russia during the late 19th century, with Russian cuisine. Gogol's description of the 19th century homestead is often interpreted as a satire of quiescent pedigentry life typical of this time period and the isolation of the peasantry from urban development and foreign influence. In other words, many feel that Gogol shows how a self-indulgent lifestyle, in which food is the only focus of life, is a "lost way of life."

Goldstein, however, interprets Gogol differently. Her interpretation of Gogol's homestead is "harmonious and wistful" and even "edenic." Eating in this world is a ritualistic art, with all the six main mealtimes having specific names.

To Goldstein, food is an art form which she has discovered through her immersion in Russian culture. "Every Georgian dish is a poem," said Goldstein.

Goldstein's Middlebury audience sampled numerous Russian delicacies prepared by Middlebury students of Russian and the Slavic Club. These goodies spiced up the afternoon and brought out the flavors of Goldstein's speech. They included porozhki, a food most resembling a miniature pie, filled with nuts and poppyseeds, both of which are main ingredients of Russian cooking.

Virinikij complemented the porozhki, a side-dish that one student described as "ravioli filled with blueberries." Though the resemblance is clear, a distinct flavor characterizes the virinikij that is unlike the Italian pasta. Sour cherries are also a common filling of this dish, as well as a type of cheese that most resembles farmer's cheese available in the United States.

Fruit compote was distributed as a beverage, a cinnamon-flavored drink with cooked pears with a stew-like quality, as well as tea steamed from the teapots, though the traditional "chajka" (or teapot) did not serve its purpose, displayed only as a decoration. Brewed in a rather small teapot, Russian tea, or "chaja," is dark and strong.

Vodka is another distinctive Russian drink; though to the misfortune of some students, it was not served for sampling. Soaked in various fruits, the alcohol gains flavors that range from savory to very bitter. As Goldstein explained, the medicinal qualities of each type were crucial forms of natural healing in the 1800s. The herbs that the vodka was soaked in provided treatment for illnesses, critical in the time before vaccinations and other medications.

The elements of Russian cuisine are based on the idea of self-sufficiency. In the time of Gogol, the peasantry would eat what they could produce. The entire household centered on food, with a large stove fueled by straw that took up to a third of the space within the house. In 19th century Russia, every type of food was made from ingredients that were easily accessible in the natural environment. Thus fish was not so common, because of the lack of water in which to catch fish.

There are many Russian foods and materials for which there is no equivalent in the West, such as "masla," a shortening that is neither oil nor butter. These cannot be purchased in a local grocery store either. The butter in Russia is made from sour cream, not sweet cream, and the oil originates from nuts and hempseed, giving a characteristic Russian flavor to every dish in which it is used.

Bread and salt have become symbols of traditional Russian cuisine. Bread symbolizes plenty and wealth. Salt, though nowadays taken for granted, was once a luxury item. To serve bread with salt to a guest would be the sign of genuine hospitality. Mushrooms are also very important, prepared in many ways, both stewed and fried, and used in many dishes.

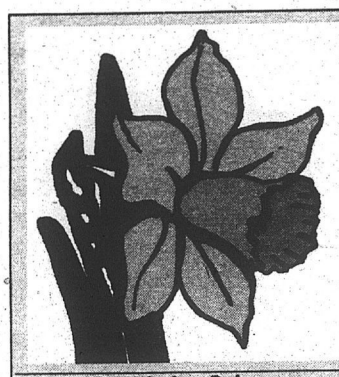
The mouth-watering experience of Goldstein's lecture offered insight into Russian culture particularly enticing to potential Russian majors planning to study abroad. Interestingly, Goldstein commented that Gogol's main "specialty" was nothing more than macaroni and cheese, and, strangely enough, that he died of what we today know as anorexia.

Perhaps he did not indulge himself in the delicacies the Russian students cooked for the lecture, letting his own body deteriorate, but he has preserved the "art of eating well" by celebrating food. Proctor and Freeman hardly resemble the cozy, warm environment of the Russian homestead, but during the less busy dining room hours, in a somewhat quiet corner, perhaps students, too, can make eating less of a habit born of necessity and more of a ritual celebrated with friends.

To Goldstein, food is an art form which she has discovered through her immersion in Russian culture. "Every Georgian dish is a poem," said Goldstein.

Pete Huoppi

Darra Goldstein, professor of Russian at Williams College, made mouths water with her lecture on Russian cuisine this Tuesday.



Sunshine Daydream Days

By Kristine Palmero
News Assistant

Is it just me or have you been noticing people that you've never seen before? A friend said that perhaps there's a secret incoming class of Marches, and from the number of unfamiliar faces we've seen so far, I'm guessing that there could be some truth to her statement.

The sun is out, the snow is close to gone. Roberto Benigni said, after winning the Oscar for Best Actor, that he wanted to move everyone to Jupiter and make love to everybody; and who hasn't known a kindergarten teacher who didn't say, "Children, come out and play!"?

It seems as if that's exactly what Midd-kids are doing as we come out of hibernation to enjoy the air that will soon be drenched in the sticky smell of cow manure.

Just yesterday, I walked by six frisbee games, three first-years sunbathing on Battell Beach and two pairs of GAP Capri pants. Marshmallow Peeps sit by open windows while Cadbury eggs melt. Another friend wants to take a road trip to New Haven, Connecticut, to fall in love with Claire Danes.

Yea for the unmistakable signs of spring!

Everyone's out but I have spent more time in front of the computer and with my ear attached to the phone in the last 72 hours than during those hibernation winter months.

So far, I've chatted with three friends to whom I last talked, oh, a year ago; my sister who just returned from her spring break; and Jake, a Sunday school classmate whom I saw for 24 Sundays in 1991.

Jake won the strategy game "Crash" in Mrs. Young's seventh grade section because he was the only student who remembered that one can't use a flare gun on the moon because—big surprise—there is no oxygen there.

It was interesting, initiating the conversation with him when I called: "I don't know if I've got the right person so this is truly a shot in the dark, but..."

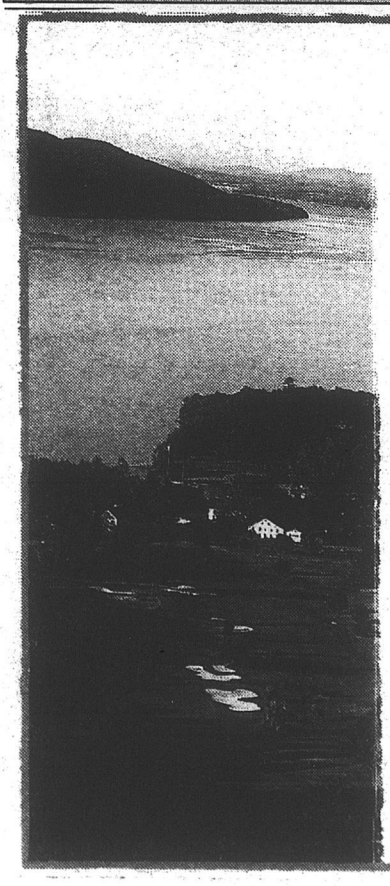
My friend Margaret downloaded ICQ, a sophisticated version of Instant Messenger, for me a month ago. I have had quite the field day, finding long-lost friends (if someone can help me limit the search for my friend Juan Fernandez from Spain, I'd really appreciate it) and other Palmeros in the off chance that we are related. It's a wonderful way to procrastinate.

The sun is out, the snow is close to gone. Roberto Benigni said after winning the Oscar for Best Actor, that he wanted to move to Jupiter and make love to everybody...

One can always rationalize this activity as a search for kindred spirits and a desire to connect past and present, which is exactly what I told myself as I opened a bottle of Visine for my dry eyes, which had forgotten to blink after staring at the screen for hours.

Call it cathartic spring-cleaning: I will try to bring as few unanswered questions about people I've known as possible into the next season by hunting them down via my super advanced Instant Messenger program. I think I'll look up my ballet classmates next.

That will have to wait, though. For now, my fingers are beginning to cramp, my ears are burning. Tonight's the full moon, and all I really want is to move to Jupiter with Roberto.



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Middlebury alumni forge bonds of marriage and friendship

By Sarah Percy
Staff Writer

"Look to your left and look to your right because there is a good chance you are sitting next to your future husband or wife."

You undoubtedly heard this slightly overwhelming prediction during the convocation ceremony at the beginning of your Middlebury College career.

You may have turned and giggled while trying to picture growing old with the newfound friend or stranger sitting beside you and then wondered, "What actually are the chances of marrying a Middlebury graduate?"

According to Kim Ehritt, Director of Research and Records at the College, only 17 percent of Middlebury alumni marry. So why are we led to believe the numbers are so much higher?

Maybe Middlebury College, with an over-advertised reputation for igniting love, is really more remarkable in its ability to encourage strong friendships and feelings of loyalty.

While admitting that Middlebury is unique in that so many of its students marry each other, Megan Shattuck '96 remarked, "You leave Middlebury having made really good friends that you carry over into your post-college life."

Janine and I dated three of the same men—all products of what they call "track team incest"... The third one bought her a ring.
—Amy Kriescher '96

Now working in New York for CNN, Megan has found that when Middlebury graduates obtain jobs in big cities they "make an effort to seek each other out."

Still, the older generation of Middlebury alumni who have married, such as Megan's parents, James Shattuck '62 and Carol Holmes Shattuck '67 would argue that there is something special about Middlebury that produces so many couples.

James Shattuck, who currently serves as the interim director of Middlebury's Career Services Office, did not become well acquainted with Carol until after college, but he knew her brother David, who graduated from Middlebury in 1964. Though the married couple did not fall in love at college, Shattuck believes that having an alma mater in common makes a difference in their relationship because it gave them shared interests.

"Middlebury men and women are destined to marry," said Shattuck. He believes that this school is conducive to meeting your future spouse because of a "mutual attraction to the values and spirit of Middlebury."

This concept of "spirit" seems to be the key in the strong friendships that develop at Middlebury.

Alice Perine '47 similarly remarked, "There is something about Middlebury—people get very attached. There exists a real warmth and spirit."

Alice, and her husband Gordy '49, who attended the college as a veteran after the Korean War, contributed to the all-time high of a 24 percent marriage rate between graduates of Middlebury during that time.

Attributing part of Middlebury's special "something" to the campus' layout and beauty, Perine also recalled that the campus was especially conducive to meeting a wife or husband during her time here because "nothing was superficial." Students did not have cars, so they had picnics, took walks and played cards. "In the very natural surroundings you made your own fun," said Perine.

Courtesy Photo

James Shattuck '62 and wife Carol Holmes Shattuck '67 attribute their successful marriage to the "values and spirit of Middlebury" they both share.

While mentioning familiar social affairs such as skiing and going to the movies, she also described how the girls did their boyfriends' laundry and how the girls had to return from their dates at 11:30 on Saturday nights for curfew—concepts certainly foreign to students today.

According to Kim Ehritt, Director of Research and Records at the College, only 17 percent of Middlebury alumni marry.

Despite these obvious changes in courtship, it was not purely the romance of the times that produced so many marriages.

Blakely '92, who met her husband John Atherton '94 at a Sig Ep party, rationally stated, "The student population is pretty homogenous in general, so it's no wonder that you would meet someone with the same interests as you."

Blakely and John Atherton, who have been married for three years, were both similar in that they played soccer. Blakely also emphasized the importance of friendships made at Middlebury.

"I can honestly say that most of my closest friends are people I knew at Middlebury, both men and women," she said.

As Shattuck observed from his days at Middlebury, "There was an affection and respect for each other which is still strong now, and out of this strength grows an allegiance to the college and the community."

Amy Kriescher '96 found herself in an interesting position when she attended the wedding of ex-boyfriend and Middlebury graduate, Foster Goodrich '95. Stranger yet, he was getting married to one of her good friends from Middlebury, Janine Hetherington '95. Foster is now Foster Hetherington (that's right, he took her name).

Kriescher explained, "Janine and I dated three of the same men—all products of what they call 'track team incest.' In each case, I took him for the first spin, but she took him for the longer spin. The third one bought her a ring."

"I suppose the track team incest cannot take the credit for the marriage, since they didn't begin to find each other adorable until after they had both graduated," said Kriescher.

"But hammer throwers will mysteriously stick together when the throwing is done. The way in which one spins around a concrete circle must have direct correlations to the way in which someone will spin through life."

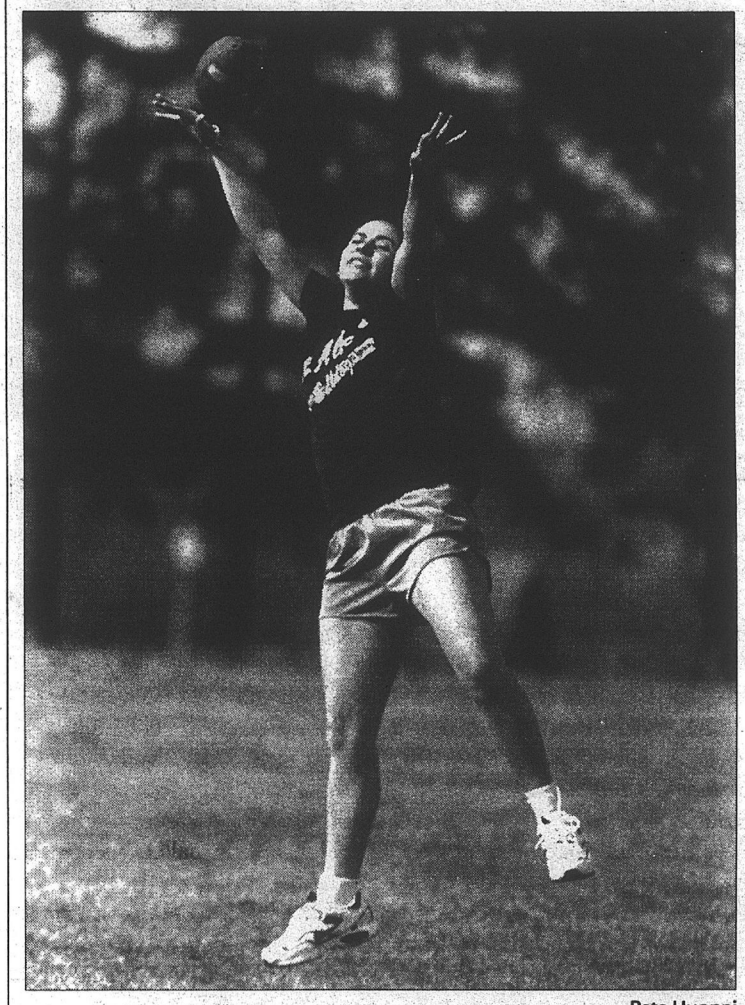
"I like to take a little bit of the credit for another Midd-marriage since I so enthusiastically encouraged them both to give the other one a good once-over," said Kriescher.

"Details are confidential," said Kriescher about the wedding. "But it must be said that I've never had so much fun at a wedding.

"[Am I] jealous?" Kriescher asked herself. "Not a bit. I love Foster like everyone loves Foster—we just can't help ourselves. And I was so happy to see him fall in love with such a wonderful friend and person as Janine."

Most alumni seem to agree that the Middlebury experience is about the many bonds students forge during their four years rather than the one true love they may happen to find.

I got it... I got it...



Pete Huoppi

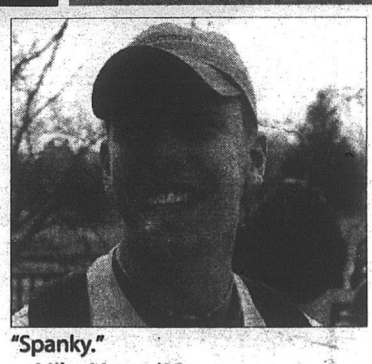
Reveling in the spring sunshine, *a Middlebury student joins her friends in a game of football inspired by the recent warm weather.*

CAMPUS VOICES

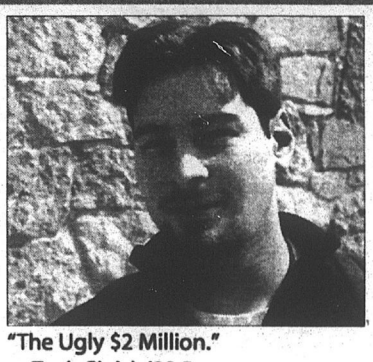
What would you nickname Bicentennial Hall?

Compiled by Tom Marks Photos by Laura Ford

"Eight Floors of Hell."
—Jen Kendrew '00



"Spanky."
—Mike Moran '02



"The Ugly $2 Million."
—Zach Sinick '99.5

"The Rock"
—Anya Smith '02

A Guide to Burlington:

An insider's look at the nightlife, history and activities that make the city of Burlington such an interesting place to visit.

Burlington's long and varied history surprises many students

By Alex Sperling
Staff Writer

So let's get one thing straight before things get too out of hand: Burlington is not the capital of Vermont. It never has been and most likely never will be, although it is the largest city in Vermont, with a population of around 40,000 (1990). What makes Burlington so special then? Aside from the fact that it has about five times the population of Middlebury. Midd students flock to Burlington because it's the "big city," but does anyone really know anything about it? This may sound like the prelude to another boring history lecture, but don't give up quite yet. You just might learn something interesting.

Burlington, the seat of Chittendon County, is located on Lake Champlain and overlooks the Adirondack Mountains of New York. It's about a 45 minute drive from Middlebury up Route 7, and about and hour and a half south of Montreal, in case you were wondering. Currently, Burlington is the commercial capital of Vermont, if this state can even claim to have one. There are factories, lumber yards, restaurants, clubs, and shops galore. New Yorkers may not be impressed, but ask anyone at Middlebury, and it's a hub of activity.

Ever been to Battery Park for a concert? It was the scene of an abortive British Military Attack in 1813.

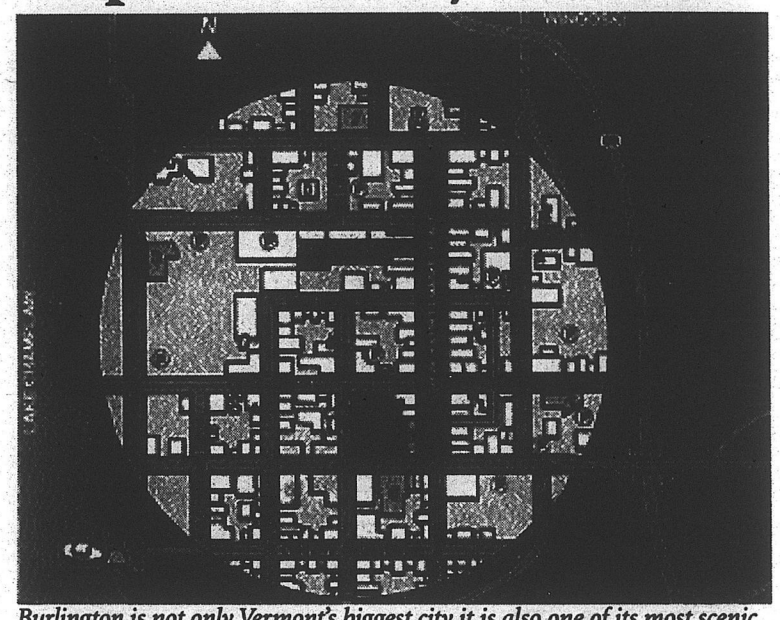
The first European conquest of the Burlington area was in 1609 by the French explorer Samuel de Champlain. He was also responsible for settling parts of Canada including Montreal. As a result, he named the lake after himself so as to be always remembered. The French who followed in Champlain's wake first settled Burlington in 1666. Those settlements were gradually abandoned and the Champlain valley turned into a deserted no-man's land. Things don't change much, do they…Well okay maybe a little. By 1763, interest in this region sprung up once again. Governor George Benning Wentworth (who named him?) of New Hampshire chartered the Burlington region in that year. The city was settled in 1773 and incorporated in 1865. It was named for the Burling family who were pioneer landowners.

During the War of 1812, Burlington became a military outpost (literally out in the middle of nowhere). Ever been to Battery Park for a concert? Well, it wasn't always a popular social venue; it was the scene of an abortive British military attack in 1813. Think about that the next time you go to see a show.

Today, the Burlington "metro area," if you can call it that, is comprised of the towns of Winooski and South Burlington, and Essex Junction village. The Burlington airport, a favorite hang out for many college kids, is just a short drive up Route 189 and is now officially an international airport, as flights fly all the way up to Canada. The Shelburne museum, the former home of Ethan Allen, is located about seven miles south of the city. The museum attracts visitors from all over the country with its unique recreation of early American life. Burlington is also the home to three of Vermont's universities: the University of Vermont (1791), Trinity College (1925) and Champlain College (1878).

All right, so you're bored. What's so special about some random city in the middle of

(see Burlington's, page 14)



Burlington is not only Vermont's biggest city it is also one of its most scenic.

Microbrewery lights up Burlington dinner scene

By Michael Hartt
Staff Writer

For the past 10 years, the Vermont Pub and Brewery, located on College Street in the heart of Burlington, VT, has been serving up some of the best food and drink in the country, and has received many rewards accordingly. The VPB has won Great American Beer Festival, Yankee Brewer's Conference and Real Ale Festival medals. In 1989, the pub's first full year of service, it was cited as Vermont's Small Business Blue Chip Enterprise, a testimony to both its product and the industriousness of its owners. More recently, in 1997, the VPB was honored as one of the 25 Best Craft Breweries in America's Best Brews. The Vermont Smoker Porter, one of the Pub's specialties, was selected by the Barleycorn Press as "the best in the country and the second best in the world." And at home, the Burlington Free Press Reader's Choice Awards has recognized the VPB as the "Best place to have a beer" for three years running.

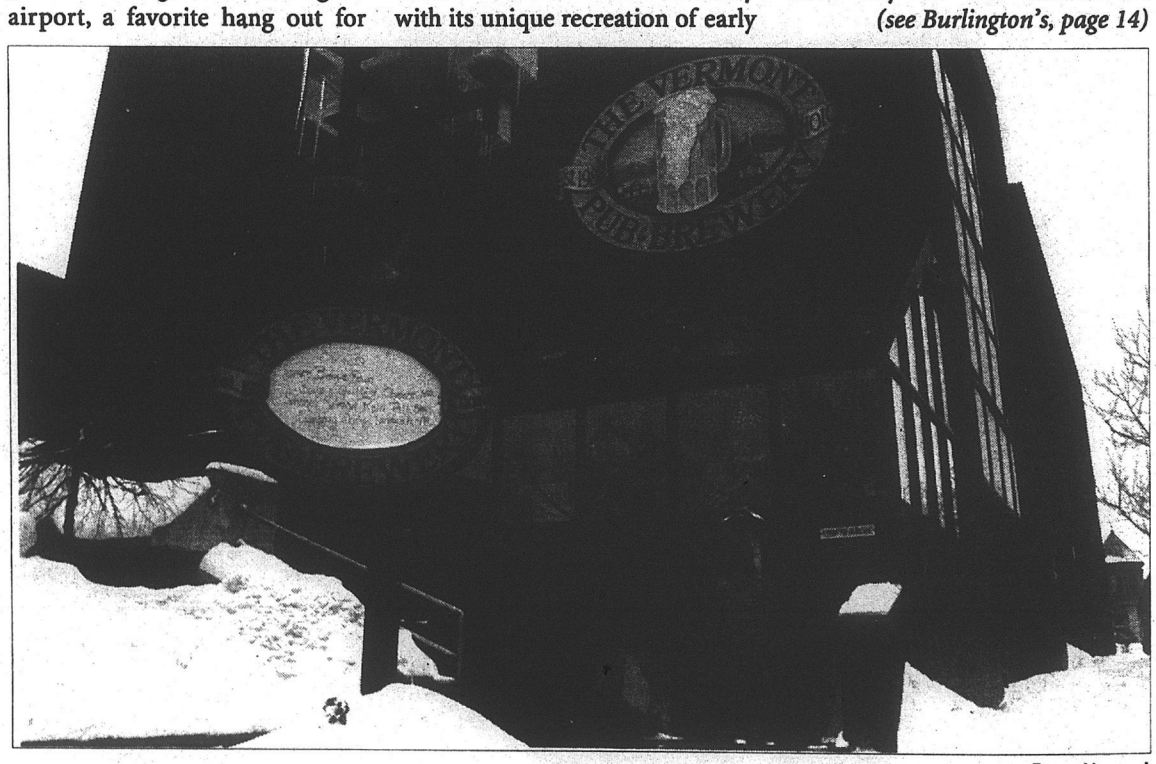
Clearly the Vermont Pub and Brewery has received much acclaim for its brews, which range from light brown ales to dark porters to fruit-flavored ales. The variety is a source of pride for owners Greg and Nancy Noonan, who opened the brewery in November 1988. The Noonans actively petitioned the legislature to change the Vermont law prohibiting pub brewing, and, in May of 1988, the legislature responded, and Governor Madeline Kunin signed into law the bill that allowed pub brewing for the first time in Vermont since Prohibition. Immediately, the Noonans began to convert a space that had been a prep kitchen, office and banquet room into a full-service brewery and 175-seat restaurant. The VPB was only the fourth brewery to open on the East Coast.

The Vermont Pub and Brewary has won Great American Bear Festival, Yankee Brewer's Conference and Real Ale Festival medals.

Using a maple sap boiler, a stockyard feeder, and a former commercial ice cream manufacturing vessel, Greg Noonan designed the brewery. The pub has since developed its facilities into a 14-barrel whole-grain cellar brewery, with facilities that are considered among the best in the country. This creative and intelligent planning has proven a hallmark of the VPB, whose owners enjoy their craft brewing because of the flexibility it provides. Unlike a major industrial brewery, the VPB can experiment with a variety of types of brews, instead of simply producing thousands of bottles of one type of brew.

Among the brewery's specialties are the Rock Dunder Brown Ale, the Dogbite Bitter, the Vermont Smoked Porter, and smooth red Burly Irish Ale. As well, the VPB has a selection of Cask Ales, creamier and dry-hopped ales noted for their unique flavor. Finally, the pub offers a group of fruit beers, a trend in beer-making in the past few years, including Raspberry Red Ale, Georgia Peach Ale, and Cherry Smoker Porter. And of course, the pub also offers a wide selection of malts, wines, and several interesting beer-Cider Jack mixes. Prices are $3.50 for a pint, $2.75 for 12 ozs., and $1.75

(see Vermont Pub, page 14)

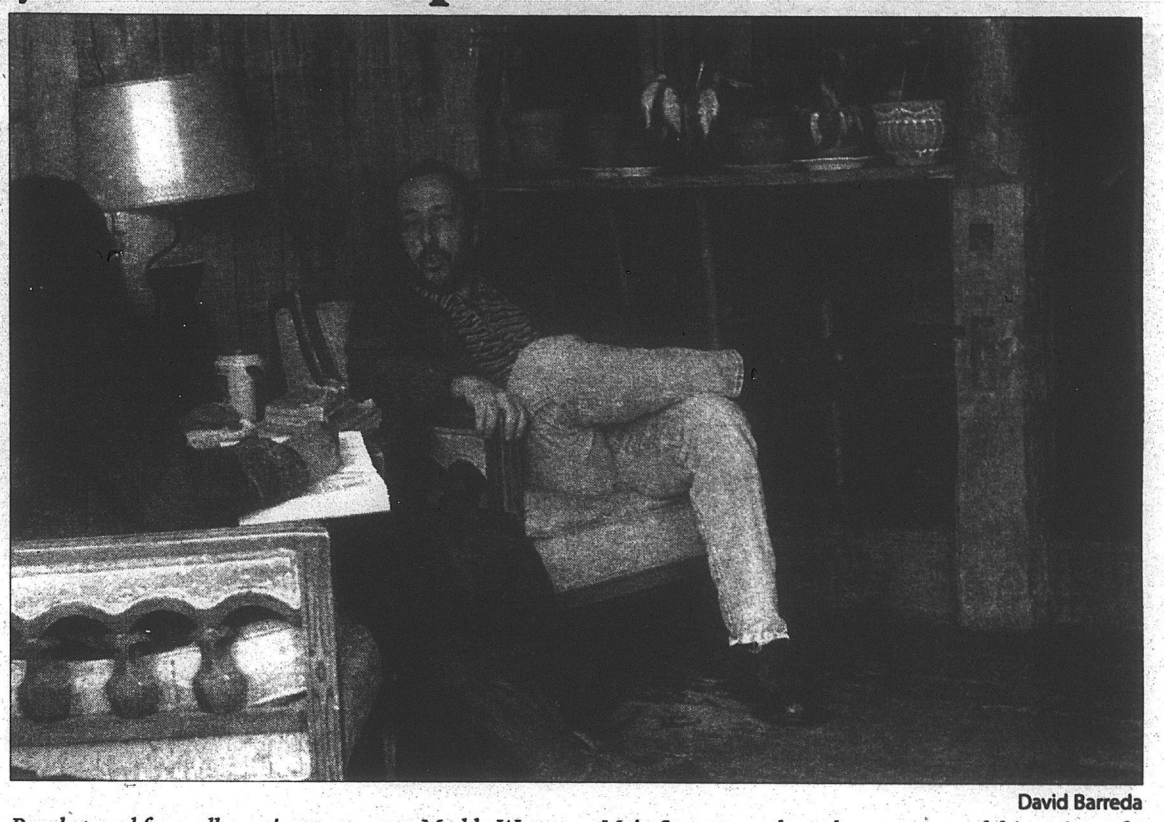


Peter Huoppi

Vermont Pub and Brewery won a legislative victory a number of years ago when granted the right to brew beer.

New York style coffee shops abound in downtown Burlington

By Laurie Manus
Associate Editor
Carolyn Hely
Staff Writer



David Barreda

People travel from all over just to come to Muddy Waters on Main Street to soak up the atmospere of this active cafe.

Serendipity is defined as the art of finding the unusual or the pleasantly unexpected by chance or sagacity. Chance, however, played no role in ensuring a delightful experience at Serendipity 3, New York City's first and most famous coffee house-boutique.

New Yorkers agree that Serendipity 3 is one of New York's most highly frequented, nevertheless touristy, cafes. This coffee house-boutique, which opened in 1954, resembles a 50s sweet shop with Tiffany lamp shades hanging from the ceiling. Since its opening, celebrities frequently visit it to see if Serendipity 3 truly deserves the praise that it routinely receives. Andy Warhol proclaimed Serendipity 3 as his favorite sweet shop, and he paid in drawings for Serendipity 3's trademarked "divinely decadent" Frrrozen Hot Chocolates and other sweets.

Serendipity 3's popularity explains its elevated prices. On a Saturday night customers should expect to wait at least 30 minutes to get a coffee for $2, a hot chocolate for $3.45, or an espresso with whip cream and a nonpareil for $4.50.

Chocolate lovers will find their bliss at Serendipity 3 by ordering either the hot chocolate or Serendipity 3's trademark Frrrozen Hot Chocolate, which was recently featured in the movie "One Fine Day." The hot chocolate is topped with whipped cream, grated valley orange, cinnamon, and shavings of French chocolate. The Frrrozen Hot Chocolate, which has the consistency of an ice daiquiri, is pure chocolate heaven with shavings of chocolate and whipped cream oozing off of the dish. One frozen desert for $6.50 is sufficient for two people to simultaneously sip, but (take it from me) one person can definitely put it away!

Burlington college students spend their time sipping cafés au lait, hot chocolates, or chais in the many cafes on Church and College Streets .

But how can Middlebury students experience serendipity in a city that is closer to Middlebury than New York City?

Vermonters and Burlington college students spend their time sipping cafés au lait, hot chocolates, or chais in the many cafes on Church Street and College Street in Burlington.

These streets offer a wide variety of cafe atmospheres that Middlebury students should visit; they need not venture south to New York City to find a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere. Muddy Waters, the Red Onion Cafe, Speeder and Earl's, and Uncommon Ground provide a variety of settings conducive for chatting, reading, or enjoying a light lunch while people-watching along the pedestrian streets of Burlington. Each cafe has its own unique decor and ambiance but similar prices.

In Burlington nothing compared to the Frozen Hot Chocolate, but staple drinks such as coffee, hot chocolate, tea, and espresso cost considerably less at all of the Burlington coffee houses. The prices for these drinks, as well as for pastries and fruit drinks, were comparable at all of the Burlington locations.

The ambiance of the Burlington cafés was more soothing and conducive for intimate conversations.

While the hustle and bustle of Serendipity 3 created a slight case of nervousness, the ambiance of the Burlington cafes was more soothing and conducive for intimate conversations.

To escape from crowds and shouting voices, order a hot drink or a freshly squeezed juice at Muddy Waters, located on 184 College Street. Muddy Waters has a rustic decor with the wooden poles and cross beams that create a homey space for small wooden tables and chairs. Red lights and soft yellow lights illuminate the book shelves and paintings of naked figures and city scenes lining the walls. The hanging plants and colorful chalk boards, serving as menus, add a touch of color to this wooden cabin.

Moreover, the vegan friendly pastries and the knishes distinguish Muddy Waters from most of its competitors that serve only cakes, cookies and muffins. A blend of customers of all lifestyles, ranging from the bohemian vegan to the lap-top carrying business person, occupy the soft arm chairs facing College Street.

The more serious business person or student will not feel quite as comfortable at Speeder and Earl's on 104 Church Street as at Muddy Waters. Speeder and Earl's is better suited for ordering a coffee to go than for serious studying or conversations, but students at the Middlebury College Grille have

(see Coffee, page 15)

City heats up with summer activities

By Anne Pennington
Staff Writer

Burlington, Vermont offers a variety of activities during the summer months. Whatever your interests and whatever type of person you are, you will find pastimes with ease in this scenic town.

If you are an active person, there is a ten-mile bike path which loops through Burlington and South Burlington, curving past Lake Champlain beaches and parks. A sunny day draws countless rollerbladers, bikers, runners, and parents pushing carriages or walking a dog. It is virtually impossible to be bored among this veritable commune of outdoor activity lovers.

Off Route Seven the more daring can find Red Rocks park, which attracts both young and old for the thrill of cliff jumping. Some cliffs are merely a short jump into the water, while some are heart-stoppers.

Burlington also offers a haven for canoers seeking a place to float for miles. Lake Champlain is interesting to navigate, and there are a variety of rivers, such as the Lamoile and the Winooski Rivers, which are just a short distance from the main waterfront that contributes to the attraction of the downtown area.

For those who love the outdoors but seek something a little less strenuous, there is a ferry that travels across the lake to New York. The ride lasts an hour and takes one to the other side of the lake, where there are many interesting shops to visit.

Of course, Church Street is a busy place in the summer. People from all walks of life can be found there, shopping or simply enjoying the sun.

For those interested in the historical background of an area, the Spirit of Ethan Allen takes riders on a guided tour of the lake. Among many other things, riders will learn of wrecks they are sailing over the top of and about the legendary sea monster, Champ, who resides in the waters of Lake Champlain.

Many Burlington high schoolers build bonfires and spend the evening there with their friends.

The Champlain Islands (Grand Isle, North and South Hero) draw kids simply because they are isolated and a good place to get away. Many Burlington high schoolers build bonfires and spend the evening there with their friends.

Of course, Church Street is a busy place in the summer. People from all walks of life can be found there, shopping or simply enjoying the sun. Because of the proximity to the lake, and because of the various shops and cafes, Church Street is one of the most popular sites in Burlington. The Burlington Square Mall is there, as are many coffee shops and restaurants. Ben & Jerry's also recently opened a store in the middle of downtown, which of course is a large attraction for tourists and residents alike. Borders Bookstore, much like Barnes and Nobles, is a highly entertaining place to visit, as it has a cafe and a music department along with the main bookstore.

Nickelodeon Cinema Six is the nearest theatre to the downtown area. Cinema Nine is located off of Route Seven, and Showcase Cinemas Five off of Route Two. For the price-conscious, Ethan Allen Cinema shows movies for $1.50, and $1.00 on Tuesdays. Though the movies there are not always new releases, all movies will probably end up there, if you have patience.

Burlington is host to a variety of concerts; the most frequented places are the Flynn Theatre and Memorial Auditorium, but bands also come to the various downtown clubs. Every night in Burlington you can find some kind of exciting music being performed.

Courtesy Photo

Summers on Lake Champlain offer a variety of activities including sailing.

Of course, the nightlife in Burlington becomes more exciting once you are 21. Every night during the summer the bars are crowded with students who work during the day and party at night.

Burlington has much to offer, whatever your age, lifestyle or interests. It truly thrives in the summer, filled with people who make it the place that it is.

Locals boast Burlington's old New England charm

By Nicole Miller
In Depth Editor

A little lost in the wilds of Vermont nestles a cozy city with a slightly trendy charm. The locals still treat this place as a secret, but despite their efforts, Burlington has hit the charts as a popular tourist haven. Throughout the bitterly cold winters, those who call the city home stroll down Church Street and brave the elements, cherishing the relaxed atmosphere of the city which still belongs to them. However, come summertime, the town is flooded with interested sightseers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Burlington boasts its New England charm. White church steeples pop out amid other buildings and remind residents of the city's original small-town roots. It is this quaint appeal that draws many visitors to the area. Flipping through magazines one can find it ranked as a popular destination for travelers. In 1997, *Snow Country* magazine ranked Burlington as one of the top six ski towns in the country. The magazine noted its small-town feel, proximity to the slopes and the plethora of musical talents as the major draws of the city.

True enough, these seem to be the same reasons that many residents love to call Burlington home. Bill Goldsbury has lived in the Burlington area for his entire life. He was born in St. Albans and attended the University of Vermont (UVM) in the 60s. He now resides in South Burlington. When asked why he decided to remain in the area, Goldsbury responded, "My roots are here. Some people move on, but I am more comfortable in Burlington."

Goldsbury commented on the small-town feeling of the city, "People in Burlington can get more involved in the community. You can get lost in a big city. Things here are done on a more human scale."

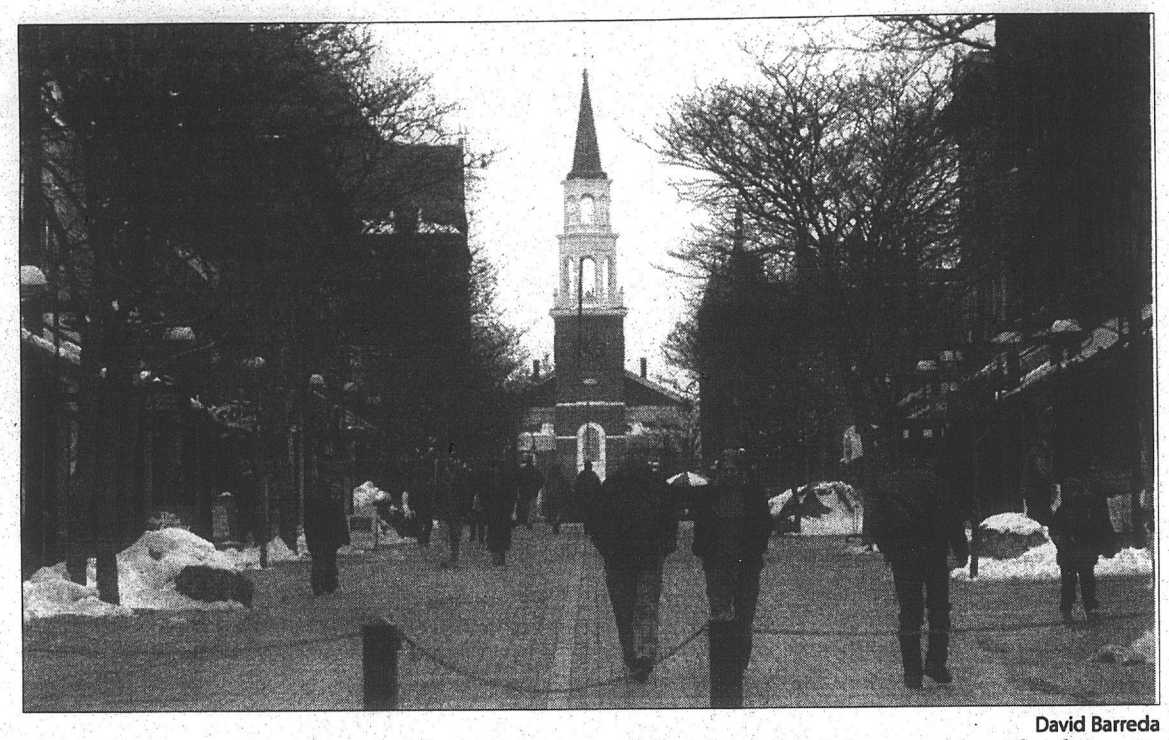
April Thibault and Chloe Montgomery are both juniors at a public high school in Burlington. They had some mixed feelings about their home. "Burlington is a nice place to hang out in the summers," said Thibault, "but the winters are way too cold and they're aren't enough people in the town."

Montgomery added, "It gets hard to find new things to do in such a small town, especially when it is pretty empty."

One of their biggest concerns was the lack of a central location for local teens to spend time. Since the closing of Club Toast last January, there are not many all-age clubs and hangouts for the local kids.

However, despite their complaints, both girls agreed that Burlington was a great place to be in the summer.

"A lot of people come in the summer, so you meet so many different people. Summer is all about being outside and going to tons of shows. Even if I move away, I am always coming back to Burlington in the summers," explained Thibault.



David Barreda

The old world charm of Burlington, Vermont is embodied in the pedestrian arcade downtown near Church Street.

Peter Tavlin and his wife moved to Burlington from New Jersey two years ago. He was offered a job in the area and found it a very desirable place to live.

"If you appreciate the outdoors, [Burlington] is a great place to live," said Tavlin. Tavlin also noted that, for a town of its size, Burlington had a lot of activity. However, one complaint that he's heard is that the shopping selection is not a good as in a bigger city.

There was a general consensus among everyone asked that if one were to bring friends to visit Burlington the best places to take them to would be outdoors. Burlington's main tourist attraction is the wilderness that surrounds it. The waterfront of Lake Champlain was mentioned frequently as a popular destination. Thibault noted that cliff jumping into the lake was a popular activity for many local youths.

Goldsbury was a fan of the city but also suggested its surroundings as a better destination for tourists. "I would take people to see the mountains and the rural parts of Vermont. Then I would probably only take guests into the city at night to see some music at a local club," he explained.

A great deal of the complaints by local residents surround the issue of Burlington as a college town. With UVM, St. Michael's, Champlain College and Burlington College all in the area, Burlington is definitely dominated by college students. Some residents feel that some students do not have enough respect for their community.

Goldsbury, who attended UVM around 30 years ago commented on his surprise over the growth of UVM's reputation as a party school. "The party school atmosphere mushroomed out from the school's reputation," he commented. As rumors spread, students began to come to UVM expecting a party school—and, in turn, made it into one.

Due to complaints by the residents over local college students, UVM is considering building more dorms on campus to dissuade students from spreading through the town. However, many streets are still filled with houses of local students.

When asked about Middlebury College, most did not feel any con-

(see Scenic, page 15)

Vermont Pub and Brewery offers a unique dining experience

(continued from page 12)
for a half-pint.

The Vermont Pub and Brewery is more than just a bar however. The restaurant section of the building is decorated in "clubby" dark mahogany wood and green, and features an attached greenhouse and a warm-weather outdoor seating area. The menu includes typical pub fare, with excellent burgers, wings and cold sandwiches. The hot sandwiches include Philly cheese steaks, Chicken Rolli-Polli (a wrap-like sandwich with a strong sweet-and-sour sauce), the Grand Banks (beer battered fresh scrod sandwich), and the Portabello Mushroom sandwich. Further, the dinners include a selection of fish, chicken, pasta, and sirloin steak, all prepared a variety of ways.

Lastly, the VPB offers its selection of "Brewpub Favorites," including the Cock'a'Leekie Pie (baked chicken, leeks, and crisp veggies, topped with pastry), Mushroom or Chicken Mulligatawny (curried veggies or chicken in a cream sauce over rice), and the classic Vermont Country Meatloaf. All around, prices are very reasonable for the high quality food, with meals ranging from $4-14, and a good meal for two figuring in around $25.

The Vermont Pub and Brewery offers a great experience in Burlington. On a Friday night, both the bar and restaurant areas are packed (reservations are probably worth the long-distance phone call), proving that the VPB is the popular spot in Burlington.

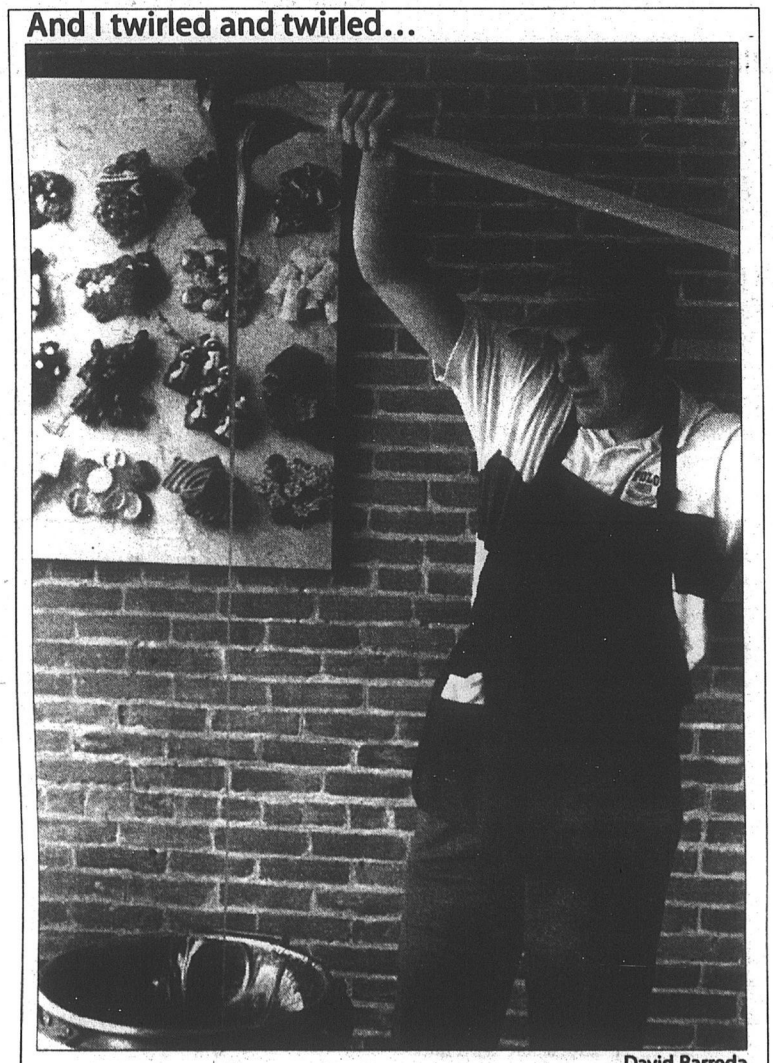
The Vermont Pub and Brewery offers a great experience in Burlington. On a Friday night, both the bar and the restaurant areas were packed, proving that the the Vermont Pub and Brewery is the popular spot in Burlington.

Customers included older couples, groups of twenty-somethings who looked like they'd just come from the office, and plenty of college-age students, proving the broad appeal for their food and drink.

The VPB is very serious about ID checking and safe drinking, as witnessed by a case of confiscated fake IDs in the lobby, a table in the menu indicating BAC levels based on time, number of drinks and body weight, and the promise in the menu that "We do not over-serve our patrons whether they are driving or not. Your friends and you are more likely to enjoy yourselves when alcohol is enjoyed, not abused. Remember Ben Franklin's famous words: 'All things in moderation.' Enjoy the beer, have a good time!"

The Vermont Pub and Brewery —144 College Street, Burlington, Vermont—(802)-865-0500— www.vermontinc.com/vpb— Open daily from 11:30 a.m.- 2 a.m. Sunday-Friday, 11:30, a.m.- 1 a.m. Saturdays.

And I twirled and twirled...



David Barreda

Pedestrians gape in awe *as confectioners make a wide variety of chocolates daily at the Lake Champlain Chocolates store on Church Street.*

Burlington's rediscovers its history

(continued from page 12)
nowhere? Why write a whole article on Burlington?

Well, the *Burlington Free Press*, founded in 1827, became Vermont's first daily newspaper. John Dewey was born in Burlington. The Unitarian Church has a bell that was cast by Paul Revere. Burlington Coat Factory owns the city. No, wait, that last part isn't true. The other stuff is though. Not impressed yet? Well, the state of Vermont apologizes for not providing a bustling version of New York City, Los Angeles or Washington DC, but there's only so much one can do when tucked in the middle of the Green Mountains, in a state hostile to neon lights, factories and McDonald's. Oh wait!

Montpelier is the only state capital without a McDonald's, but rest assured, Burlington has one.

That's something else Burlington has. McDonald's! That's a lot more than Montpelier can say, being the only state capital without one.

Burlington is not exactly a major metropolitan area, but look around you and think carefully whether you would really want another urban center here. Burlington is a great social, political, economic, and intellectual city for a rural state like Vermont.

What more could you ask for in a city?

Bars, clubs and live music make mark in Burlington

By Michael Stoddard
Staff Writer

Good beer fills the night in Burlington's bars and music clubs. One can even sip a well-crafted brew while waiting for laundry. Suds n' Duds offers bottled Long Trail. And its big screen TV, and pool tables provide more entertainment than watching clothes spin in the dryer.

For those seeking a better atmosphere and a fresher brew, the Vermont Pub and Brewery and the Three Needs Brewery and Taproom both brew on the premises a selection of beer styles.

The music scene in Burlington is lively. Many small restaurants host bands on a regular basis…Due to a city sound ordinance, the bars and clubs do close early on weekend nights, at one a.m.

The Vermont Pub and Brewery specializes in "English style ales." These tend to be milder and smoother than American style micro-brews, lacking their hoppy bitterness and malty sweetness.

Especially tasty for the colder nights is the Wee Heavy, a sweet, smooth, and syrupy scotch ale.

The Pub boasts three cask conditioned ales, mild brews with a silky-smooth mouth feel.

The atmosphere is relaxed, with a late twenties crowd. The Three Needs, a reported Phish hang out, claims to satisfy the three most important ones, "wine, women and song."

But as Rachael Brodsky, UVM student stated, "everyone has their own three needs," and Three Needs tries to fill them. The glasses, however, are always full. The beer selection is more limited, but the freshness and quality are excellent. Especially tasty is the Belgian Single, a flowery and wheaty light ale. Also available are the Munich Dunkel, a sweet and dark lager, the Bock Bier, a heady and strong brew, and the Foreign Xtra Stout. The crowd is a mix of students and non-students in a chill atmosphere.

For those with more than beer on their mind, Burlington includes a number of bars packed with intoxicated college students who, according to UVM student Chris Peterson, "dress up to take someone home with them and then regret it the next morning."

The music tends to be louder and the crowds to move more quickly from bar to bar on their hunts. Included in this list are Rasputin's, R.J.'s, and the Last Chance which, by its name, tells one about the atmosphere around closing time.

Due to a city sound ordinance, the bars and clubs do close early on weekend nights, at one a.m.

The music scene in Burlington is lively. Many small restaurants host bands on a regular basis. The Manhattan Pub and Sneakers Bar and Grill host local bands like Wide Wail in a cozy setting.

Clubs such as Nectar's and Metronome offer louder music in a larger venue. The recently opened club Higher Ground in nearby Winooski offers an even larger venue and attracts bigger name artists.

Peter Huoppi

Bars are a particularly attractive aspect of the Burlington nightlife scene for a large percentage of college students.

Those scheduled for the month of April include G. Love and Special Sauce, String Cheese Incident, and Parliament/ Funkadelic. Higher Ground fills the dance floor during the day with tables and serves delicious lunches, specializing in wraps.

The Mt. Everest fills a tomato wrap with snow peas, carrots, sprouts and mushrooms, all bathed in a Thai peanut sauce. Delicious.

And to help the student pull through a rough morning-after, Sneakers also serves tasty breakfasts. Located across the street from Higher Ground, it includes in its menu such delectable items as Kahlua battered French toast and fresh-squeezed orange juice.

The line typically winds out the door and down the street, so try to get there before eleven.

For those interested in Burlington's offerings, a good resource is *Seven Days*, a weekly newspaper. *Seven Days* is also online at www.sevendaysvt.com. Burlington can refresh a campus-weary soul and quench the thirst for some excitement in this quiet place.

Coffee houses draw crowds with trendy upscale atmostpheres

(continued from page 13)
grown quite fond of the Speeder and Earl's coffee.

The purple wooden planks jutting out from the wall, which should hypothetically function as a table, do not comfortably fit both a laptop computer and a coffee cup.

Unless customers wish to stare at their reflection in the mirrored walls, then they should not perch themselves on the brightly colored bar stools and the black and white checkered floor. Keep searching for a more inviting coffee bar at Uncommon Ground, on 42 Church Street. Uncommon Ground welcomes all types of people with the huge working coffee roaster and bags of coffee beans at the entrance.

The staff is very friendly, competent and accommodating. The hot milled cider for $.95 surpasses the cider beverages at Serendipity 3, if they even offered it on the menu. Uncommon Ground caters to dieters with a low fat pastry selection, while the other Burlington cafes do not.

This cafe feels a touch sterile due to its bright lights, white walls and open space. The white daisies on each flowered table cloth save it from the unwanted cafeteria-like appearance.

After a few cups of coffee, amble down to 140 Church Street to the Red Onion Cafe for a scrumptious lunch. The yellow and blue color scheme at the Red Onion will wake up any customer if the caffeine from the other cafes has not already kicked in.

The yellow and blue color scheme at the Red Onion will wake up any customer if the caffeine from the other cafes has not already kicked in.

The tables are covered with a cosmic-star design table cloth and a vase of flowers that accents the blue and yellow checkered floor. Be sure to bring personal reading material because the Red Onion charges for newspapers, while the other cafes have copies available for free.

Customers at the Red Onion immensely enjoy the light and sunny atmosphere as they wait for the chefs to prepare an overstuffed sandwich for approximately $4.50, a salad for $3.10, or a soup for $1.95.

The oversized cookie assortment which includes snicker doodles, white chocolate chunk, and peanut butter cookies, is somewhat expensive at $1.15, but totally mouth watering.

If Muddy Waters, Speeder and Earl's, Uncommon Ground or the Red Onion Cafe do not seem satisfying, many other cafes are hidden in the streets of the greater downtown area of Burlington. If one looks he or she will find such spots without any difficulty.

In the zone

David Barreda

With the artistry of Michelango, *an artist in a shop on Church Street carefully crafts a variety of intricate designs on a group Easter eggs in preparation for the upcoming Easter Holiday.*

Scenic summers attract visitors to Burlington

(continued from page 14)
nection to the school despite the fact that it is only 40 minutes down the road.

Tavlin had heard about the school long before he moved to Burlington, however he has not learned anything new about it since his move to Vermont. He did, however, mention that people in Burlington hear about the hockey team. Tavlin also commented on Middlebury hockey, calling it "good for the state, because it brings people to the games."

When asked, Thibault and Montgomery did not know about Middlebury. "I've heard of the town," Thibault admitted, but when asked about the college she responded, "Oh, there is a school there?"

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Continuing Education

Mary Cassatt exhibit leaves no one in want

By Anne Marie Calareso
Staff Writer

The expatriate impressionist Mary Cassatt, suffered during her time in the United States "for the want of seeing a good picture." Those who travel to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston will not be able to make the same complaint. The current special exhibit at the Museum, "Mary Cassatt: Modern Woman," is not simply a showing of the artist's work, but it is a guided journey through the life of a woman struggling to be an artist.

Mary Cassatt is best known for her paintings of mothers and children which illuminate the relationships of everyday life. This exhibit contains a large number of her paintings that one is likely to recognize, but those are not the highlights.

Instead, the focus is on the varying subjects and diverse mediums chosen by Cassatt. Although she is undeniably an impressionist, Cassatt is not limited to landscape paintings of oil on canvas. Instead, she used everything from pastels to metallic paint to depict the characters of her life in their usual, comfortable activities.

The most interesting pieces in the collection are the color prints which are based on the style of Japanese artist Kitagawa Utamaro, whose prints are also included in the exhibit, allowing viewers to see both Cassatt's achievements as well as the prints that inspired her.

In addition to the Japanese prints, there are many other objects and works on display that inspired Cassatt. After gazing at the series of Cassatt's paintings focused on the subject of attendance at the theater, opera glasses and a fan, the necessary accessories in the theater box, can be studied. In another area, the tea set featured in "Tea," one of Cassatt's most famous works, is on display.

The collection includes an interactive, multimedia room where adults can read various books on Cassatt while listening to soothing classical music on headphones and kids put together puzzles of Cassatt's paintings.

Both young and old can explore information on the time period during which Cassatt painted, as well as on the eclectic artists that inspired her, at a number of computer terminals. Although the information that the computer provided was slightly generic, the most exciting program allowed the viewer to manipulate Cassatt's paintings by changing background colors or removing certain items like the famous tea set. It heightened the appreciation of Cassatt's talented eye.

Courtesy Photo

Mary Cassatt's "Portrait of a Little Girl" (1878) was included in the Museum of Fine Arts' recent exhibition.

Not only was the exhibit extremely well designed, with similar paintings in each room and well chosen paintings in the spaces between the rooms, but the collection was well placed within the museum. The exit led straight into the impressionist collection at the museum so that one could quickly compare Cassatt to her fellow artists such as Monet, Manet, Pissarro and Degas. Since the colleagues presented their works during their lives at Impressionist exhibits together, it is only logical that they should continue to be seen in the same manner.

The exhibit is made accessible to any lover of art, educated or amateur, through the use of informative panels which provide biographical information about Cassatt during the period in which she was painting. Also available for a nominal fee are recordings for self-guided tours. The greatest disadvantage to the exhibit is the cost of entrance, which is $13 for non-members. Students at Boston area colleges can get into the exhibit for $5, and some of the ticket sellers are kind enough to consider Middlebury in the Boston area. However, the exhibit is well worth the price of admission. And while you are there, check out the rest of the museum which includes art from many different countries and periods. The exhibit will only be at the museum until May 9, 1999, so hurry down to Boston and don't miss this incredible opportunity to experience the world of Mary Cassatt.

Nature, passion and joy inspire an evening of Alvin Ailey

By Anne Dewitt
Arts Editor

In 1958, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Troupe established itself in New York City. Over the past forty years the company has become one of the foremost modern dance organizations in the world. It works to foster black artistry, preserving and celebrating these traditions as well as those of the modern dance community.

Alvin Ailey presented three pieces at the Civic Center in Madison, Wisconsin on Tuesday, March 23. "The River" used music and movement to embody natural phenomena; "Bad Blood" explored the potential for violence in sexual relationships; "Revelations" told the history of blacks in the United States using religious imagery.

Working under commission from the American Ballet Theater, Duke Ellington and Alvin Ailey collaborated to produce "The River," a piece which represents the journey of a river from spring to ocean.

"The River" began with dancer Richard Witter lying curled on the stage in a round white spotlight. As he came to life in a series of stretches and contractions, seven couples joined him and the lights came up to decorate the floor in a dappled pattern of white and green which evoked sunlight through leaves. The supple bodies of the corps swayed as a graceful clump of willows or aspens, background to Mr. Witter's solo as an allegorical figure of the spring from which this segment took its name.

Of the seven following dances which together make up "The River," particularly striking was "Giggling Rapids," a duet danced by Mucuy Bolles and Matthew Rushing. Ms. Bolles dazzled the audience with her wide smile and precise control of jumps and footwork, despite the breakneck speed the music demanded.

Troy O'Neil Powell, the soloist in "Riba" (Mainstream), also stood out, for his stage presence as much as his dancing skills. The choreography of Riba puns cleverly on the dual meanings—one relating to a river, the other to society. The company appeared onstage in two groups of three men and two groups of three women. Each group danced as a single unit, linked into a line with their arms around each others' shoulders. Imitating the currents of a river, they crossed and recrossed the stage in trajectories parallel to the audience. Powell attempted to move independently of them, though he repeatedly found his way cut off or blockaded by one group or another. He joined onto one of the male trios, executing a convincing pantomime of attempts to mimic their steps. Eventually he gave up and returned to independence, though when the four groups exited he gave an amusing performance of embarrassed surprise at being left alone onstage, which he attempted to mask with a casually swaggering demeanor.

The hopeful, even lighthearted atmosphere of "The River" gave way to much darker imagery in "Bad Blood," a 1984 work choreographed by Ulysses Dove for Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal. The stark set design of this work stripped the floor down to scuffed black marley and hung an ominous 'X' of knotted white rope across a black backdrop. The male soloist for the first movement of "Bad Blood" rose from a bench centerstage to perform an angry, aggressive dance. The pulsating music which eventually joined him—the score included "Excellent Birds" by Peter Gabriel, "Gravity's Angel" and "Walking and Falling" by Laurie Anderson—only enhanced the sense of bleak despair.

Six other dancers—three men, three women—appeared towards the end of the first section, and the three movements which followed displayed their athleticism and technique as they leapt, spun, threw themselves at each other and lifted their castmembers high in the air.

The duet in the second segment, where the man and woman exchanged taunts, shoves and occasional caresses, seemed to explore the abusive side of a relationship. The third movement began with an even more frantic partnership, and as the other dancers joined in, a single motif repeated itself: a woman running full speed at a man, then leaping and hurling herself into his arms.

"Bad Blood" ended on a calmer note, though it provided no satisfying resolution. The lights dimmed to duskiness, and the interactions between men and woman turned from violent to tender, but a pattern of betrayal emerged. Repeatedly, the woman in a couple left her partners, her attention drawn by another male dancer. Eventually, three couples had paired off, leaving a single man draped, as though in death or sleep, across the bare wooden bench.

"Revelations," choreographed by Mr. Ailey in 1960, returned the mood to upbeat, ending the program with the strongest work of the evening. Like the other pieces performed, "Revelations" was sectioned into movements. The first, "Pilgrim of Sorrow," was a series of dances set to melancholy gospel music and beautifully costumed in earth tones. These laments, with their solemn melodies and stately movements, including a poised duet by Ms. Bolles and Edward Franklin, evoked a yearning for deliverance—religious salvation, or possibly liberation from slavery.

"Take Me to the Water" achieved this liberation. The dances set to "Processional" and "Wade in the Water" represented two people joining the church. A white square cloth symbolized the communion table, while a pair of long rectangles of fabric—one white, one gray—were stretched across the stage to become the river in which the couple received the sacrament of baptism.

The third movement "Move, Members, Move" celebrated freedom from a state of spiritual darkness or a state of servitude. With the women dressed in bright yellow gowns and the men equally formal in yellow waistcoats, the company performed a joyous series of brisk corps work, a wholehearted display of pleasure in the liberation of dancing.

The audience greeted "Revelations" with enthusiasm, and after seven curtain calls the dancers repeated the last few minutes of "Move, Members, Move." The audience responded gleefully, cheering at their favorite parts, clapping to the beat of the music and greeting the end of a renewed ovation of energetic applause.

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Fiennes, Paltrow humanize the Bard

By Bethany Mabee
Staff Writer

Poor starving artist is not usually how the modern world pictures William Shakespeare. However, "Shakespeare in Love," cleverly speculates about the beginning of this literary master's career by depicting "Romeo and Juliet" as the spectacular result of multiple miscommunications and mix-ups.

1593 finds Will, played by Joseph Fiennes, in all sorts of trouble. His benefactor, a local theater owner, is plagued by creditors and in dire need of a new play which will gross a large net revenue. This man turns to Will, begging for a splendid new comedy. The playwright responds with a piece named "Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter" which will feature a dog as the main comic object, because Queen Elizabeth and all her subjects love dogs.

Will, however, is in a quandary. His muse has vanished and his mistress has betrayed him, so he visits the sixteenth-century equivalent of a psychiatrist to rid himself of the ensuing writer's block. After several false starts, Will is on his way to writing the stereotypical comedy of the time, fully devoid of inspiration.

Viola (Gwyneth Paltrow) arrives on the scene and Will's brilliance returns. Fleeing a stuffy family and an arranged marriage, Viola comes to the theater to try out for Will's new play dressed as a young boy, complete with mustache and goatee. Women, it seems, are banned from the stage by royal edict. But neither this decree nor her upcoming wedding stop Viola from seeking poetry and a chance to act to her heart's content.

Once Will determines Viola's real sex, he woos her in a balcony scene which he later immortalizes in his writing, complete with conspiring nurse, disapproving family and star-crossed destiny. Thus the comic farce "Romeo and Ethel, the Pirate's Daughter" becomes the tragic romance "Romeo and Juliet."

Although the change confuses them at first, the company of actors at the theater quickly grows to relish the drama unfolding around them. Even the company's self-important star, a believable Ben Affleck, learns to appreciate the play, even when he realizes that his character (Mercutio) does not have the title role.

Unfortunately, Will's revolutionary new work becomes tragically autobiographical when Viola is forced to marry a pompous Colin Firth, who plans to take her and her weighty dowry to Virginia. Nonetheless, love ultimately triumphs as Viola becomes Shakespeare's lifelong inspiration.

"Shakespeare in Love" reminds us that the literary giant we now revere was once an average citizen.

The first production of "Romeo and Juliet," however, is a tremendous success. Staged in a theater resembling The Globe, the play moves a packed house to tears and thunderous applause.

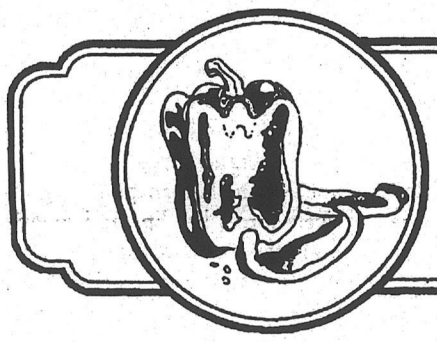
The theater's physical similitude to its historical counterpart is just one of many allusions to Shakespeare and the Elizabethan era. Many aspects of the film, plot and otherwise, which have been transferred directly from Shakespeare's works into the film's context, serve as witty reminders to the observant viewer. "Words, words, words," groans Will at one point, a phrase the Prince of Denmark will later immortalize in "Hamlet."

There are also many modern touches as well, which add humor without detracting from the film's authenticity. In one scene, Will is following Viola in a river-taxi, trying to keep his beloved in sight. The taxi driver turns out to be a struggling writer who pitches his own work to the more successful artist, though Will of course pays him no heed. Subtle touches such as this help modern audiences connect with sixteenth-century city life, pulling us into the plot by drawing parallels between the life we know and that which we are observing.

The movie does not strive to create a perfect romantic portrait of the Shakespeare taught in school.

Rather, it fictitiously, but accurately, portrays a true existance in the sixteenth century. "Shakespeare in Love" reminds us that the literary giant we now revere was once an average citizen just like the rest of us, prone to the same weaknesses and capable of the same strengths.

Courtesy Photo
Fiennes and Paltrow play two star-crossed lovers in "Shakespeare in Love."



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Kingsolver unfolds biblical-like epic

By Anne Dewitt
Arts Editor

Don't read "The Poisonwood Bible" expecting another version of "The Bean Trees" or "Animal Dreams." The difference between Kingsolver's earlier novels and her most recent work of fiction is as drastic as the difference between the gentle Arizona desert and the exotic African jungle.

"The Poisonwood Bible" tells the story of Nathan Price, a Baptist preacher who leaves Georgia for missionary work in the Belgian Congo. He takes with him his wife Orleanna and his four daughters: 15-year-old Rachel, the 14-year-old twins Leah and Adah, and five-year-old Ruth May. Against the backdrop of the Congolese struggle for independence—first from European, then from American control—the mission, originally intended to last twelve months, grows to absorb the six Prices into a lifelong involvement with Africa.

Driven by overwhelming self-confidence as well as intense feelings of guilt—as the only soldier in his unit to survive the gruesome World War II struggle in the Pacific—Nathan Price sets out to convert and baptize the natives of the Kilanga. His project fails from the beginning. Shrewdly, the villagers wait to see how well the Prices' Jesus protects them before subscribing to the new religion. But the six Americans succumb to the same trials as the Africans: malnutrition and malaria, ant swarms and floods, disappointment and tragedy. Many of the family's problems arise from the same cause: Nathan's fiercely stubborn adherence to doing things his way. He refuses to accept the advice or traditions of the villagers, and in doing so sacrifices his family on the altar of his own ego.

But men remain peripheral to "The Poisonwood Bible," a story based entirely on the experiences and emotions of the novel's women. Each chapter switches between the viewpoints of Rachel, Leah, Adah Ruth May and Orleanna. It is a testament to Kingsolver's gifts as a writer that she creates and maintains a separate voice for each girl. Snide comments about the villagers and fantasies about clothes and wealth fill the narrative of the materialistic Rachel, who will ultimately exploit Africa as thoughtlessly as the European and American colonialists.

The distinctness of these perspectives strengthens the epic structure.

Leah's voice rings with sharp perceptiveness and her need to believe deeply in some cause—first her father's faith in God, then her husband's dream of independence and democracy for the Congo. Leah's idealism contrasts with the wry observations and self-deprecation of her crippled and dyslexic—but brilliant—twin Adah, who spouts continually witty palindromes: She calls the end of her father's prayers his "amen enema." Ruth May's words glow with her precipitate, active energy and stubbornness.

The distinctness of these perspectives strengthens the epic structure of "The Poisonwood Bible," with its separate but intertwined plots: the adult lives of the three oldest sisters and their shared pasts. As Kingsolver whisks her reader through decades and across the Atlantic Ocean, she keeps us oriented with Rachel's malapropisms and Adah's satirical comments.

As always, Kingsolver's characters possess the same depth and dimension as real people. Thus, superficial Rachel can experience and express grief and remorse, at least momentarily. Compassionate Leah can lash out at her husband and family. Orleanna, an ordinary woman who agonizingly fails to protect her daughters from the perils of Africa, can nonetheless win their deepest love and devotion. In constructing figures of such elaborate and contrasting qualities, Kingsolver succeeds in drawing her readers into the emotional lives of the people on the page. Without living the experience, we can understand and empathize perfectly with the incredible challenge of leaving one's home and country and moving into the unknown and frightening depths of the jungle.

"The Poisonwood Bible" is a much darker novel than any of Kingsolver's previous work; lacking their humor and their hopeful (if not happy) endings, it acquires a gritty realism that contrasts utterly with their translucent optimism. Its intensity and scope (it spans thirty years, two continents, a war, and the inner lives of five women) make it a more serious and certainly more ambitious work. But the conclusion lacks resolution, leaving the reader uncertain whether to be convinced of life's potential for joy and progress, or certain of mankind's condemnation to self-destruction. In the end, we feel as uneasy and off-balance as the white Price girls do in the country that ultimately becomes—emotionally, if not physically—their home.

Arts Smarts

Friday, April 2

7:00 p.m.
Film: "Liar Liar"
Admission is $1.
Sponsered by the American Movie Club.
Dana Auditorium

7:30 p.m.
SASA Film: "Fire"
Sponsored by the South Asia Club.
Twilight Auditorium 101

8:00 p.m.
Performance: "Rosencrantz and Guilderstern are Dead"
Call the Center for the Arts box office for ticket information.
Wright Theatre

8:00 p.m.
Memorial Jazz Concert: Nathanial E. Kachadorian
Sponsored by the Music Department.
Admission is $9 general, $7 faculty/staff/seniors and $4 students.
Center for the Arts Concert Hall

9:30 p.m.
Film: "Liar Liar"
(Also at 7:00 p.m. {see details above})

10:00 p.m.
First Friday Cultural Coffeehouse: Spider Moon, Women's a capella quartet
Co-sponsored by the Center for the Arts, Brainerd Commons and Dining Services.
Center for the Arts Rehearsals Cafe

Saturday, April 3

3:00 p.m.
College Street Film: Tribute to Hispanic Cinema
Dana Auditorium

7:30 p.m.
SASA Film: "Fire"
(Also at 7:30 p.m. Friday {see details above}.)
Twilight Auditorium 101

8:00 p.m.
Performance: "Rosencrantz and Guilderstern are Dead"
(Also at 8:00 p.m. Thursday {see details above}, Friday and 2:00 p.m. Saturday.)
Wright Theatre

8:00 p.m.
College Street Film: "Live Flesh"
(In Spanish with English subtitles.)
Dana Auditorium

8:00 p.m.
Vocal Concert: Erin Branch '01 & Heather Reichert '01
"Sweeter Than Roses," a vocal concert by sopranos Erin Branch and Heather Reichert, accompanied by Greg Vitercik.
Sponsered by the Music Department

Courtesy Photo

Ben Lee, child wonder, shines on new release

By Samuel Folk-Williams
Arts Editor

Scream a little because screaming is fun, screaming is flash. "I should have known at first" that things don't change, it's true, and that's "no way to let off steam." But scream and scream and scream.

Evolving transitions have been made, been developed to achieve, to realize a greater sophistication. Universal truths from barely 21 for everybody: "A lot goes on, but nothing happens... Choose a town, find a girl to fall around." All those sounds; big and bright synthesized voices. One lesbian punk aggressively forces her lips and tongue upon those of another. Gratuitous teenage lust between puffs on the cig and pop pops of the bubble gum (yum yum gum—the sort to make your breath taste the way cherries should taste). God, sex right here on the New York line. Bound for the city with a hard slap on the bum and a universal saliva exchange. Turn me on, turn me on and on between BigMac meals and cellulose black-bra fantasies transpiring on satin red sheets and shag carpeting in some trailer park clichy motel.

Not much can be said for a dry mouth and the smell of breast, the smell of latex. Too familiar and repulsive, though kept well hidden. Mechanical drum beats beat and beat, "I walk the street with some friends of mine. Just like every time." Slowly slide down a shoot and down slip on the stream-wet stones, lapping down once over the other with soft simpleness. A cigarette burns in a "physical sickness... Falling in fear again/I know I'll never be here again." Steady steady, all the time strum-bum and hum away, along again. Some prefab synth bit bass line dumb drum, "realize we actually die" (in the imperative). Fall beside the fold-out cot in the motel morning one midnight late. The telephone lines run low round these parts: "Dearly departed/You leave the city broken hearted/You were never really there."

Change, transcend: "If I could only visit the places that you hide." Think quiet as the voice cracks, whispers so slow and soft, "It's buried in the chaos/It vanishes as soon as you tell/I know this feeling well." There's a special world here, fast asleep and sleeping still. Again and over again deep inside back and far between: "Teach me to sleepwalk/There's nothing I want more." I know, I know: Nobody knows. But I know and what's more you know. Self-conscious and aware.

Listen to the hum of the autobus run past Tacos Tacos and so much more that we never want, we never want. Seeing out past red perceptions of rural discontent running deep through parallels of mistaken conceptions. "It's not like that," they say, and what happens on a Sunday, on a Sunday? "It's like this, like this here, dear." As if I've lost the right of way, unable to see past the cotton knit hat and black nylon puff jacket. There's nothing wrong here, no problems. Warm air turns chilly, never safe from the cold front. Perpendicular passways without hope. Overgrown and mildly uncertain. "I want to listen to you, I really really do."

Eyes popping out—literally. I never thought I'd see it. Moments of weakness dissolving to tears. Some challenges may be too big to face, who could say? Who could see through the walls? Words falling out between bursts of psycho-soluble non-material thoughts. Face falling apart—life falling out and behind. Concepts of slip-trip slide past recognition into fall back modes of diffused mentality. And what's more (what's more!): Life on the down turn doesn't seem to be anything more than those concocted teenage sex fantasies on the late night cable channel. Twelve years old, male, and taking in all the breast the black box has to offer. Take me away from this big bad world, down into the nuclear fall-out shelter.

Hundreds of people crammed in a few square feet waiting for the bombs to drop. Plop stop (stop!) and read between the nodes of science: "Too much freedom in the relationships of interacting parts gives rise to strange attractors, also know as chaos." There's more to be said, of course, but the album is barely three-quarters of an hour (strongly recommended).

Track debuts outdoor season in San Diego

By Scott Cacciola
Staff Writer

Beware: Panthers are on the loose. After competing at a pair of meets in sunny Southern California during Spring Break, the Middlebury track and field teams returned home, hungry for NESCAC blood and prepared to fulfill high expectations this season.

This year's team is composed of 1/20 of the school's current enrollement, with close to 100 athletes, 64 of whom made the cross-country trek to San Diego.

Highlighting the week's events was the qualification of five athletes for the NCAA Championships: senior co-captain Adam Dreiblatt, Elissa Burnell '01, Heather Langlois '00, Kristy Laramee '01 and Kate Irvin '01.

"I just can't believe it," a euphoric Head Coach Martin Beatty said. "Never before have we qualified five individuals for NCAAs during spring break. I can't remember if we have even qualified anyone—let alone five—during the week. I keep pinching myself! And we'll have more as the season progresses."

On March 21, the pack of Panthers made the relatively short trek up the Pacific Coast Highway to Los Angeles to take on Occidental College in a quaint dual meet. Unfortunately, many Oxy athletes left campus for their Spring Break, and both Middlebury squads overwhelmed the depleted Oxy squads.

On the men's side, coming off a strong indoor season, Ethan Barron '01 decimated the 110 Meter High-Hurdle field with his time of 15.00.

Middlebury had a 1-2-3 sweep in the 100 Meters, led by senior co-captain and defending New England champion Mike Cormier's first place finish in a time of 11.32. Right on Cormier's heels was Paul Horsham '00 in 11.41. Barron had little difficultly in a hurdle-less race, placing third in a very respectable 11.53.

Ben Pratt '01 was victorious in the 400 Meter Hurdles, blistering the field with a time of 58.23—just a few tenths of a second off of his personal best.

The 800 Meters presented one of the more bizarre races in recent Panther track history. A heavily depleted Oxy distant contingent forced Craig Breen '00 to run the race solo. Breen put in a herculean effort, however, and finished in a time of 2:00.58.

Nobody in the stands had any doubt that a Middlebury runner would win the 3000 Meter Steeplechase, either. The race was a three-man battle between Eli Enman '99, Josh Fisher '00 and first-time steepler Ryan Richards '02. Enman took command of the race fairly early and finished in 10:06.95.

First-year Yuri Lawrence won the Triple Jump with a leap of 13.03 meters, while Ben Coello '01 easily outperformed the High Jump field.

Dreiblatt won the Hammer Throw with a toss of 45.34 and first-year Bryan Black showed that high pre-season expectations were not unfounded, as he destroyed the field in the Javelin with a toss of 53.87 meters.

Highlighting the women's side of the competition were the performances of three field athletes. With tosses of 37.69 and 35.75 meters, Burnell and Langlois placed first and second, respectively, in the Javelin. In so doing, both athletes qualified provisionally for the NCAA Championships.

All-American Laramee outleaped the competition in the High Jump with a height of 1.65 meters. With that height, Laramee joined Burnell and Langlois as an NCAA provisional qualifier.

Other highlights of the meet included first-year Meredith Bazirgan's victory in the 800 Meters (2:23.39).

Senior co-captain Chrissy Peterson easily won the 400 Meter Hurdles with a time of 1:05.20.

In field events, Langlois won the Triple Jump (10.47), Maureen Nowland '99 won the Hammer Throw (37.22), Stephanie Farnham '02 claimed the Shot Put title (31'7"), and Holly Carlson '02 won the Discus (35.00).

Following the squad's impressive performance at Occidental, the Panthers returned to San Diego for a week of sun, surf and training at UC-San Diego (as well as a week of gawking at Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams, who was using the athletic facilities in preparation for the upcoming NFL draft).

On Friday and Saturday, the team participated in the UC-San Diego Spring Break Open. The annual event draws talent from all over the country, including Division I competition from schools such as UCLA, Auburn and Tennessee.

Dreiblatt proved that Division III Middlebury could compete with the big boys in the very first event of the meet. With his toss of 53.48 meters in the Invitational flight of the Hammer Throw, Dreiblatt not only broke the Middlebury school record, he also qualified automatically for the Division III NCAA Championships and placed sixth overall in the competition.

"It was nice to [qualify for NCAAs] early in the season," Dreiblatt said afterwards. "Now I don't have to worry about it during the season."

"Adam's just a real find," Beatty said of Dreiblatt. "Here's someone who never even threw hammer before college but is a great athlete and possesses a tremendous work ethic. He worked very hard over the course of his college career, and by his senior year he's seeing some overwhelming success."

In other field events, Black improved on his previous result at Occidental with a throw of 54.42 in the Invitational Javelin competition, placing fifth overall. Andy Dixon '00 overcame a disappointing performance at Occidental to place ninth in the Invitational Pole Vault flight at UCSD, with a height of 13'11.25. Finally, Coello won the Open flight of the High Jump with a leap of 6'2.75.

After junior Krishna Moody's 1:58 split in the men's 4 x 800 Meter race, Bill Coddington '99 recorded the Panther's second sub-two minute performance in winning his open flight of the 800 meters (1:59.71).

The women were led once again by the field athletes. Burnell (38.64 meters) and Langlois (35.66) recorded fourth and fifth place finishes in the Invitational Javelin, while Laramee tied a personal best in winning the Invitational High Jump (5'5.25"), improving upon her provisional NCAA standing.

Not to be outdone by the performances of her teammates, Irvin put on a show of her own in the top Open flight of the 800 meters. Neck-and-neck with UCLA runner Tracy Cohn through much of the race, Irvin was narrowly edged at the line by her Division I counterpart, but recorded a provisional NCAA qualifying time in the process (2:16.21).

"We're really strong across the board, this year," Beatty said. "Throwers, sprinters, distance runners, jumpers—we're really deep in all of the events. This is also the most hardworking, most serious team I've ever had at Middlebury. It's going to be a fun year."

The Last Goodbye

Peter Huoppi

Senior captain Nickolai Bobrov *waves to the Middlebury fans after the Panther's 5-0 victory in the NCAA Division III championship game on March 20. Bobrov scored two goals and dished out two assists in the win.*

Sailing prepares to brave icy waters

By Peter Huoppi
Photography Editor

Few people would consider 33 degree water warm, but for Middlebury's sailors, it's just warm enough. With Lake Champlain staying that one critical degree above freezing, most of the ice has melted away. While this does cut the ice fishing season awfully short, it opens up the lake for the brave sailors who will spend hours on the water long before most people would dare to dip their toes in.

The fall sailing season was capped by an impressive finish by the freshman team led by skippers Ted Noon '01.5 and Pace Ralli '02. Noon and Ralli placed 15th out of 41 teams eligible for the Nickerson Trophy, awarded annually to the top freshman team in New England. This success is even more impressive in light of the fact that Middlebury's team has been in competition for only three years and remains one of the few college sailing teams without a coach.

This spring marks the third anniversary of the team's founding, and with it comes the loss of the team's last two original members, Kevin Murphy and Matt Holt. These losses seem meager, however, when compared to the addition of rookie skipper Matt Esposito '02.5 and the return of veteran Jason MacMurray '99.5.

MacMurray was sorely missed in the 1997-98 season when he abandoned the team to study in Costa Rica. He returned to campus briefly this fall, but as suddenly as he appeared, he vanished without a trace three days later. As it turns out, MacMurray's year and a half absence was merely a move to warmer climates that enabled him to practice sailing year-round.

This stint away from campus has made MacMurray a kind of secret weapon for the team. So secret in fact, that at the first team meeting of the spring, several first-years were heard whispering "who's that old guy?"

Esposito, former captain of the sailing team at Marblehead High School in Massachusetts, adds to a strong crop of young skippers that includes Noon, Ralli, and newcomer Gretchen Stuppy '01.5. It is on the strength of this young talent that the team hopes to build its future success.

Other new faces on the water from this year's class of Febs are Trevor Snapp and Liz Montori, who will round out an already strong group of crews including co-captain Jessica Silverman '00, Hillary Munson '02 and Kate Clark '02. Several more familiar faces will be returning to competition after a brief hiatus, including Ken Royer '00 and Ann Russell '01.

Team captains Chris Morgan '00 and Pete Huoppi '00, along with MacMurray, will lead Middlebury's first ever foray into sloop racing at this weekend's J-22 invite at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Noon and Ralli will make Middlebury's first appearance in a team race later in the year.

The past year's success has left Middlebury with a chance to qualify for the New England Dinghy Championships this May at the University of Rhode Island. While 12 of the 16 bids will be awarded based on ranking, the last four bids go to the top four teams at the New England Dinghy Tournament, in which Middlebury has been invited to compete. MacMurray and Noon are in tight competition for the number one skipper spot. Noon has committed his entire spring to preparing for New England conditions, declining a chance to race in the Buckeye Intersectional at Ohio State.

Thanks to the early thaw, the spring practice season should be longer than usual. With such a strong team preparing for competition, Middlebury has a chance at the best season ever in the team's short history. Hopefully the thrill of victory will provide some warmth against the icy waters.

2 Junior Varsity Field Hockey Coaches
Wanted at Middlebury Union High School for September and October 1999. Salary provided. If interested call 388-7126 after 6:00 p.m. to set up an interview.

The Campus would like to thank Brad Nadeau and the rest of the Sports Information Department for their assistance throughout the Winter sports season.

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Panthers take to the diamond in Ft. Myers, Florida

By Brady Priest
Staff Writer

The Middlebury baseball team began its season last week with the enviable task of playing ten games in Ft. Myers, Florida, over the course of Spring Break. The trip was a success as the Panthers—led by captains John Maletis, Ethan Mark and Jeff Sengle—ended up with a record of 5-3 and managed to have a bit of fun in the process.

Saturday, March 20

Middlebury	18
University of Chicago	2

The Panthers came roaring out of the blocks in the first of their ten game marathon against a University of Chicago club that was apparently not quite up for the 9:00 a.m. start. Middlebury put up an amazing 10 runs in the first two innings and coasted to an 18-2 final. The game's highlights included two home runs—one from second basemen Mark, and another from junior transfer Joe Exner. Exner is a transfer from Kenyon College and is expected both to pitch and to swing the bat occasionally from the designated hitter slot. Senior A.J. Husband also began his final season as a Panther with a bang as he pitched a six-hit complete game in which he fanned seven batters.

Middlebury's second game

Sunday, March 21

Middlebury	5
Amherst	2

came against the Lord Jeffs of Amherst. It was the game Panther fans had been waiting for since Amherst's last-minute decision not to play Middlebury last season. Amherst is consistently one of the top Division III baseball programs in the country, and the boys in blue had their hands full with this being only their second game of the year.

The Panthers were able to exact their revenge though, as they pulled out a spectacular 5-2 victory in extra innings. The game was eerily a replay of the first game as both Mark and Exner homered again. The real story of the game, however, was the pitching of first-year Tyler Conrad. Conrad went the distance, allowing only six hits while striking out six Amherst batters. Perhaps most amazing was Conrad's composure as he walked only one batter through eight innings. Hero-of-the-Day honors went to John Dickie '00 as he tripled in seniors Jeff Sengle and Brian Coates in the top of the eighth to give the Panthers a much needed win. Dan Colonno '02 then singled in Dickie to round out the scoring and put Amherst out of range.

After the incredible high of

Monday, March 22

Middlebury	0
Mt. Vernon (Ohio)	3
Middlebury	0
Mt. Vernon (Ohio)	20

beating Amherst for the first time in many years, the Panthers took the field in a double-header against a strong squad from Mount Vernon, Ohio. Middlebury lost both games, but, fortunately, Mt. Vernon's N.A.I.A. status meant that the games do not count on the team's overall record.

Middlebury next took the field

Wednesday, March 24

Middlebury	6
Coe College (Iowa)	12

against the Kohawks of Coe College (Iowa) on March 24. The Panthers came out a bit sluggish in the first couple innings, giving up an insurmountable 10 runs. Captains Maletis, Mark and Sengle went a combined 6 for 11 (.545) in the game, but it wasn't enough, as the final score saw Coe run away with a 12-6 victory.

Thursday's action consisted of a

Thursday, March 25

Middlebury	4
Union	3
Middlebury	8
Union	1

double-header against Union College. The story of the day occurred in the first game, as Middlebury found themselves down 3-2 going into the bottom of the seventh inning. Senior John Pless led the inning off with a scorching double and was advanced to third on a bunt by freshman standout Brian Hamm, who was 3-5 on the day. Maletis then singled in the tying run, before Mark loaded the bases with a textbook bunt. The stage was set for Sengle who obliged his mates by knocking in the winning run. Husband pitched another tough game, letting up only two earned runs in seven innings, while hurling four Ks and walking only one batter.

Game Two saw a fired up Panther squad score eight runs in the final two innings to win 8-1. Dickie paced the squad with 3 RBIs and a hard-hit triple, while Conrad proved his Amherst start was no fluke by striking out 12 Union batters on his way to a complete game-four hit performance.

Friday proved to be a tough day

Friday, March 26

Middlebury	6
Coe College (Iowa)	12
Middlebury	3
Southern Maine	11

for Middlebury, as the team came into the day with a hardfought 4-1 record, but ended the day at 4-3. The two losses came at the hands of the aforementioned Coe College and University of Southern Maine. The Coe College game saw Middlebury take a 4-0 lead in the top of the 1st inning, only to go down 5-4 in the bottom of the inning. The Panthers then scored 3 more runs in the top of the second, and led by the clutch relief performance of Ben Bedford '00, appeared to have the game in hand. Unfortunately for the blue team, Coe seemed simply to have the Panthers' number this week, as they scored two runs on a home run in the bottom of the 7th to win. It was an unfortunate ending for Bedford who came on in relief in the first inning and pitched wonderfully.

Friday's second game saw a deflated squad take the field against Division III powerhouse Southern Maine. The Huskies seemed to sense that the Panthers were down and capitalized early, scoring eight runs in the first three innings on their way to an 11-3 win.

Saturday, March 27

Middlebury	5
Calvin College (Michigan)	2

The final game of the week, against Calvin College (Mich.) was appropriately dominated by the heroic pitching of Husband. On far less than the prescribed rest for a pitcher, Husband pitched his best game of the week and seemed only to get stronger as the game went on. He struck out seven and walked only two on his way to an amazing complete game. The Panther offense was led by Matt Blake '01, whose play at catcher all week was outstanding. Brian Hamm '02 also had another stellar performance both in the field and at the plate on Saturday, going 2-3 on the evening.

Bobrov and Barnett lead Panthers over Jackets

(continued from page 24)

nett and Curt Goldman picked up the assists.

"[The points] were quite unexpected," Bobrov said. "I take pride in defense, and to score two goals and two assists is just a bonus."

Beaney talked about Bobrov's importance after the game. "I don't think in the twenty years that I've been coaching that I've coached a young man who has put more of his heart and soul into a team than Nick Bobrov," Beaney acknowledged. "This would not be happening without his leadership."

Barnett, Bobrov and first-year Jack Kennedy helped ice the game in the second period with a goal apiece. Junior forward John Giannacopoulos also contributed with two assists.

"I thought our defense was solid for all six periods, and that's what happens when you have people play so unselfishly," Beaney said.

When asked afterward if a sixth straight championship is in the cards, Beaney joked, "You know, anything is possible, but I think we'll tell this next team that they really don't have a chance either."

Crunch Time

By Nick Jocelyn
Assistant Sports Editor

If you look closely, the University of Connecticut's win over top ranked Duke on Monday night should come as no surprise.

Sure, Duke was favored to win by nine and a half points and with their talent and chemistry, they could probably beat a handful of professional teams, but they had no business winning their third title in five Final Four appearances in the nineties.

UConn had too many other factors going their way to help them defeat the mighty Blue Devils. There is something attractive about this Husky team that, despite 33 wins and remarkable success during the season, found themselves playing the role of underdog against Duke.

This "underdog" status, though, definitely helped to inspire their fans of around 20,000 to out-cheer and eventually silence its opponent, the "Cameron Crazies."

There are other aspects of this team that have contributed to their many accomplishments this season, such as their relentless defense and rebounding ability.

They also have a high-scoring offense that features two of the most explosive players in the country in Richard Hamilton and Kahlid El-Amin. Then, there is the coach, Jim Calhoun, who finally reached the Final Four after years of disappointment.

It was all of these reasons that helped Connecticut reach the title game, but these were only a fraction of what it took to beat Duke on Monday Night. In order to beat one of the greatest college teams of all time, they needed something more, something they did not have in their previous 35 games. They needed an opponent that millions of college basketball fans would love to see lose and they had just that in the Blue Devils.

Unless you have a brother or a sister who went to Duke or you are from Durham, a painful Duke loss can always bring a smile to your face. Who can like a team that thrived in the early nineties behind arrogant pretty boys like Laettner, Hurley and Parks, who are often remembered for stepping on an occasional opponent that had fallen?

Duke may have changed its image since the Laettner years, but the memories still remain, and since then, Duke has attracted more "fans" that would rather see them lose than win. This past weekend, with another Duke championship seeming inevitable, these emotions turned into support for the Connecticut Huskies.

In a National Championship Game, the two teams are so talented that true champions must search for something more to help inspire them to victory. The '83 NC State squad had the inspiration of Jim Valvano, the '97 Arizona team had the energy of youth, and the '99 UConn team had the college basketball world's hungry longing for a Blue Devil loss that ultimately vaulted the Huskies to National Champions.

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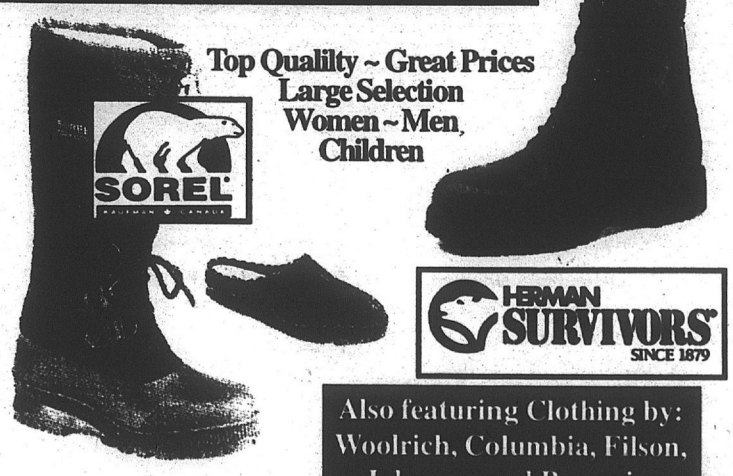
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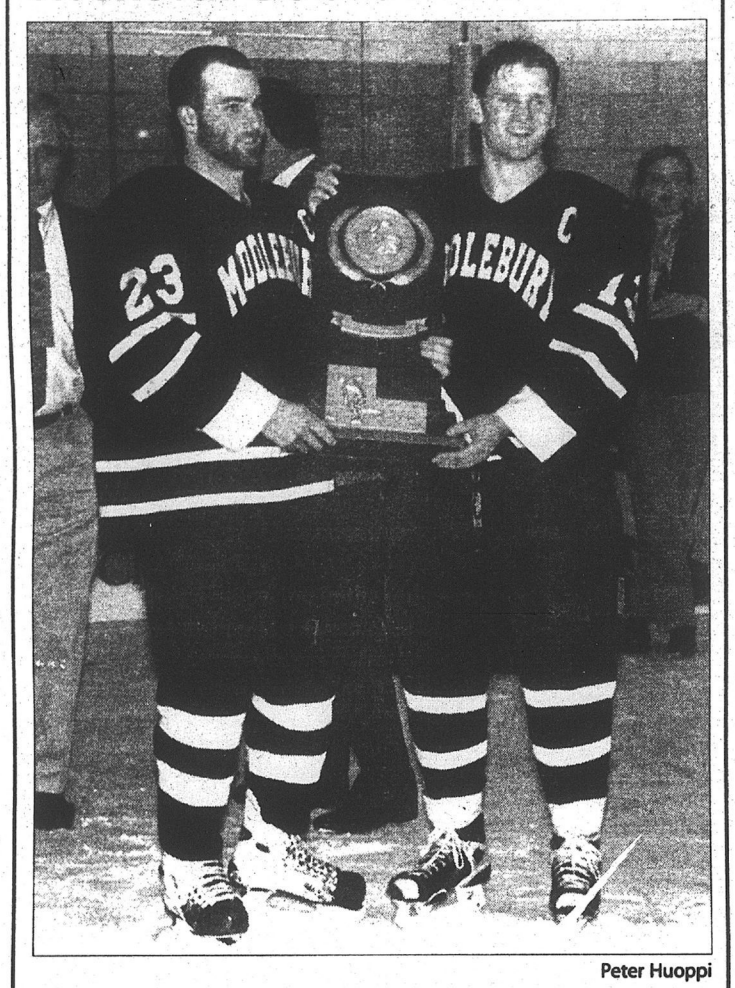
Athletes of the Week:
Ross Sealfon '99 & Nickolai Bobrov '99



Peter Huoppi

Ross Sealfon (23) and Nickolai Bobrov captained the Panther attack.

Bobrov and Sealfon go out four-time champs

By Otie Hart
Sports Editor

Seniors Nickolai Bobrov and Ross Sealfon know how to win hockey games.

The two co-captains played their last games for Middlebury on March 19 and 20, trying to elevate the Panthers to their fifth straight NCAA Division III championship. This year, however, Middlebury was not favored to win the title; in fact, the Panthers were the last team to make the eight-team playoff field and were forced to defeat St. Norbert College in Wisconsin just for a chance to defend their title at the Final Four, held at Norwich University.

While the team could have felt intimidated or overwhelmed, the Panthers overwhelmed their opponents. Led by Sealfon and Bobrov, Middlebury rolled over R.I.T. 9-3 and Wisconsin-Superior 5-0 to lay claim as college hockey's first ever five-time defending champions.

Both captains stepped up big. Against the R.I.T. Tigers, Sealfon scored a natural hat trick in the second period, including the game-winner. Fittingly, the goal was short-handed. Without a high-octane scorer, the Panther team was headlined by an ensemble cast who, at first glance, seemed a bit short-handed compared to past Middlebury champions.

"This year was different," Sealfon noted, "because we really had to play as a team, whereas in other years we could rely on talent alone. We really had to learn how to play cohesively."

Sealfon did his part this season, scoring 13 goals and passing for 11 assists, tying for second in the team in goals scored. In the clutch, however, Sealfon proved why he was a team captain, leading the team in game-winning goals with four.

Sealfon began developing these leadership skills the minute he stepped on the ice four years ago. "I immediately recognized the tradition here at Middlebury and the hard work that went into winning," he said. "Nick and I have also tried to pass this tradition on to younger players as we have gotten older."

Bobrov displayed his leadership in the Panthers' championship game against Wisconsin-Superior, ending his career with a season-high four points. The captain, however, also played a stellar defensive game, causing havoc for the opponent's star forwards.

"We thought that this would be the toughest Final Four ever," Bobrov said, "and it was a great honor to play against these teams, but we peaked at just the right time.

"We were really surprised by the blow out in the last game," he added. "Our defense played incredibly and it was an overwhelming performance on both sides of the puck."

Bobrov and Sealfon, as well as Jeff Anastasio and Brady Priest, leave Middlebury as the second group of seniors to earn four championship rings. "It has been an unbelievable ride," Bobrov reflected. "Winning one national championship is something few people get to experience, and for us to win four or five in a row is just an unbelievable experience."

Lacrosse ranked sixth in Division III

By Liz D'Agostino
Staff Writer

As the weather warms to potentially tolerable temperatures and the ground softens to mud, it is clear that the spring season looms on the horizon. Coached by Erin Quinn and Bob Ritter, the Middlebury men's lacrosse team has started their season strongly this year, winning their first two games, and dominating their opponents.

The team opened their season versus Colby College at Springfield College, in Massachusetts, crushing the Mules in a 20-5 victory. Senior Adam Pascal put in an impressive effort, scoring a hat trick. Also notable were the efforts of sophomore Holt Hopkins, who netted four goals, in addition to two assists. The two Panther goalkeepers, junior Dave Campbell and Patrick O'Reilly, stood fast in goal, making a combined nine saves which highlighted their lightening quick reflexes.

This victory was only the beginning for the Panthers. In their second game they met Denison University at John Hopkins University in Maryland. Middlebury began the game ferociously, holding a 9-3 lead over their opponents at half-time. They held fast to this lead throughout the game, finishing with an 11-9 win. Hopkins, senior co-captain Jon-Erik Borgen and junior Derek Esposito each wowed admiring fans with three goals apiece. Sophomore Steve O'Neil supported these efforts with his two crafty assists. Campbell was a veritable wall in goal with 15 saves.

I think our intensity and our level of play is a lot higher at this point in the season than it was at the same point last season.

- Captain Jon-Erik Borgen '99

The team then took on Gettysburg in an exciting match-up between two top-ten teams. Despite an early lead by the Panthers, they wound up losing the close scoring game, with a final score of 7-8. Borgen and Hopkins led the team with two goals each, while senior co-captain Todd Fryatt contributed two assists. Campbell valiantly made 16 saves in goal.

The Panthers next opposed Connecticut College in a game relocated due to unpleasant weather. Coming off of a frustrating loss, the Panthers leapt to the challenge and defeated the Camels, with an 8-4 final. Though initially a low-scoring game, only 2-1 at the half, the Panthers capitalized in the second half to send 6 goals home. A Connecticut native playing for the Vermont team, junior Scott Leech earned battle cries of Traitor! as he netted two goals for Middlebury. Hopkins again added to Panther stats with his two artful assists. Campbell made 10 impressive saves in goal and earned the title of ECAC and NESCAC player of the week for his outstanding performance.

In reference to the team's spring break trip, Borgen commented, "We had a successful trip, going 2-1. Our defense really played strongly, with Campbell leading in goal. I think our intensity and our level of play is a lot higher at this point in the season than it was at the same point last season."

With the strength of the returning seniors, aided by a large group of rookies, the team looks solid, both dynamically and physically. Chances are good that this will be a winning season for the Panthers.

The team now stands with a 3-1 record and is ranked sixth nationally in the latest Division 3 poll.

They open their home season this Saturday, April 3 against Springfield College.

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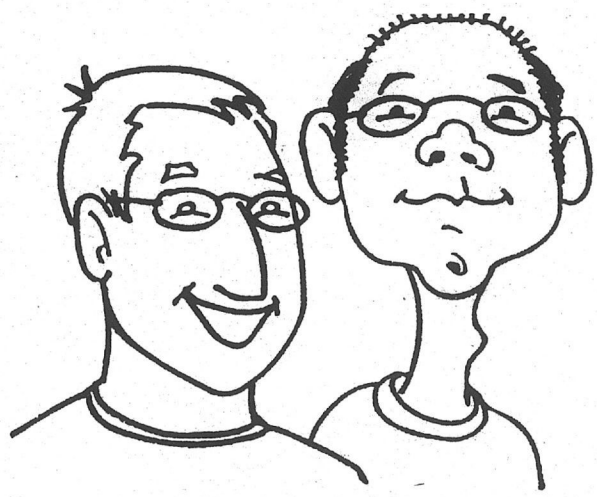

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Men's swimming beats Williams, finishes fifth at nationals

By Otie Hart
Sports Editor

The men's swimming and diving team concluded a perfect season with a perfect ending, finishing fifth at the NCAA Division III championships.

Highlighted by the achievements of senior co-captain J.P. Gowdy, the men's team put together a great showing, defeating New England powerhouse Williams College (12th) by 92 points and setting an overall school record.

"It was a fitting end to a perfect season," Head Coach Peter Solomon said. "We came away from the New England championships having already accomplished some amazing times. Anything we did at nationals was supposed to be icing on the cake, but to crack the top five was my pre-season best-case scenario."

Middlebury recorded seven All-American times at the tournament, held at the University of Minnesota on March 18-20. Gowdy was his usual spectacular self, finishing second in the 200 IM (1:51.61), third in the 400 IM (3:59.83) and fourth in the 100 Freestyle (45.22).

"I'm happy with my individual performances, but I'm more excited about our relay times," Gowdy said. "Those are what really got us the points."

Middlebury's relay teams, who dominated at the New England championships three weeks ago, once again stepped up in a crucial meet. Going into 800 Free Relay, the final race of the meet, Middlebury was in seventh place, but thanks to an amazing effort by Gowdy, senior Michael Larsen and juniors Ian Doherty and David Shomaker, Midd finished second (6:48.77) and the team leapfrogged into the top five. Gowdy's split in the relay (1:38.15) was the second fastest in NCAA Division III history.

The Panthers also placed third in the 400 Free Relay (3:04.40) and fifth in the 200 Free Relay (1:23.77). The 200 Free Relay team, made up of Gowdy, Doherty and Shomaker, and senior Erich Osterberg recorded the second best time in New England history, second behind only the University of Connecticut's 1998 time of 1:22.

Four school records fell at the national meet for the men's team. Gowdy's times in the 400 IM and 100 Freestyle set Panther marks, as did the 800 Free Relay's and Doherty's time in the 200 Backstroke.

Doherty earned two individual Honorable Mentions in the 100 and 200 Backstroke, where he finished 13th (52.14) and 9th (1:53.04), respectively. Doherty actually dropped a second from his NCAA time last year, but finished three places worse. "I dropped time," Doherty said. "That's pretty much all you can ask for. The meet is just getting faster and faster."

One of the great stories at this year's nationals was the diving of freshman Derek Chicirilli. The first-year student received All-American honors in the 1m dive, finishing seventh, and finished 10th in the 3m, scoring 400.70 and 407.50, respectively.

"Derek was the first ever diver to go to NCAAs from Middlebury," Solomon said. "He established two Middlebury records at New Englands and because of his diving at the end of the meet, we passed three teams during the last two events."

Chicirilli's performance highlighted a good freshman showing at NCAAs. Scott Strickler and Grayson Stuntz also made the trip out to Minnesota. Strickler finished 48th in the 200 IM (2:01.00), 17th in the 100 Backstroke (53.83), 32nd in the 200 Backstroke (1:58.09) and helped the 200 Medley Relay garner a 16th place finish (1:36.64). Stuntz finished 33rd in the 100 Butterfly (52.15), 40th in the 200 IM (1:58.30) and aided both the 200 and the 400 Medley Relays to Honorable Mention All-American finishes.

One of the more shocking developments of the meet was Middlebury's thrashing of Williams, a team that had beaten the Panthers by over 200 points at New Englands just three weeks before.

"I can't explain it," Gowdy said. "I'm just happy we creamed them."

"I think we just did a much better job of focusing on our goals than they did," Doherty said.

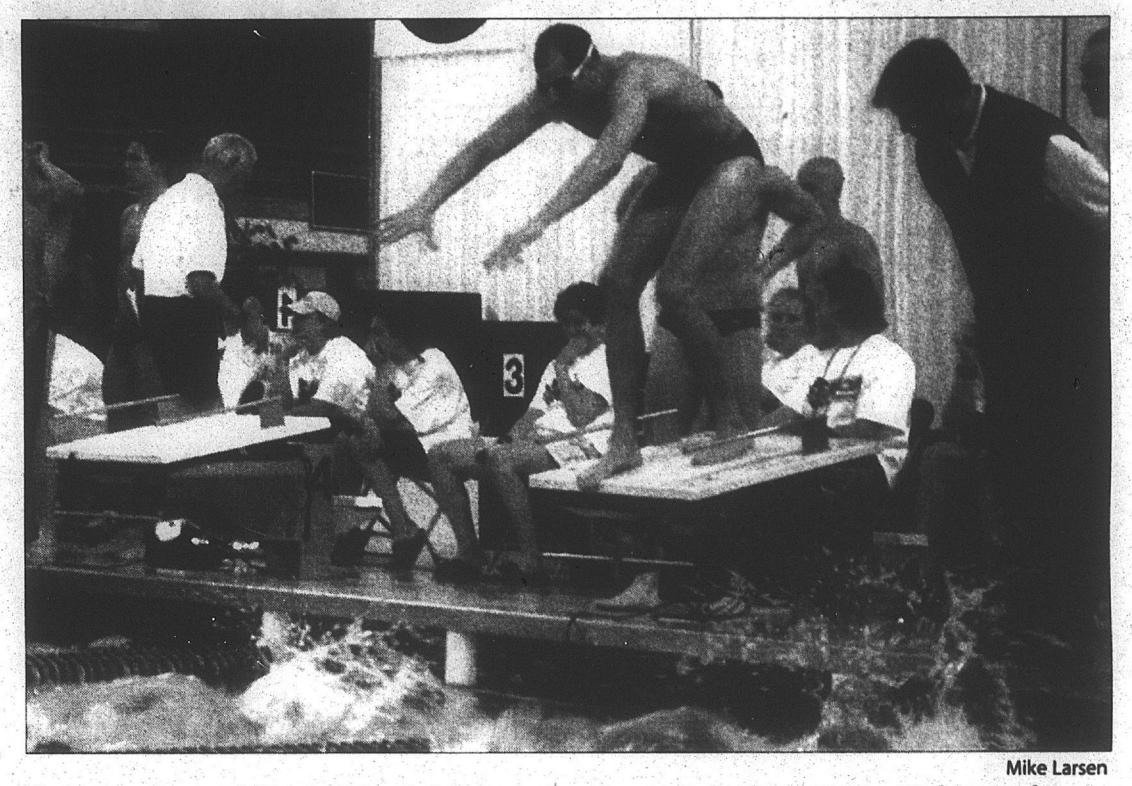
The women's swimming team sent two swimmers to Minnesota along with the nine men. Senior Jen Clark and junior Jane Calfee had a great tournament, and the two alone finished 28th out of 60 teams.

Clark finished 13th in the 100 Butterfly (58.95) to earn Honorable Mention All-American, while Calfee finished 6th and 10th in the 200 and 100 Backstroke, respectively.

"What's amazing about Calfee's accomplishments is she was abroad until February 3," Solomon said. "She trained for three weeks, qualified at New Englands, and then trained three more weeks. If she had had a whole season to train, who knows how well she would have done."

Overall, the senior leadership of the men's squad was a major element in the team's success.

"We worked well together," Gowdy said. "The experience definitely helped a lot. As a team, the seniors were able to talk to the freshman and we all did so well. It was the first time we had enough swimmers at Nationals to do our cheer before the big race. It was nice that people finally noticed us."



Mike Larsen

Men's swimming traveled to the University of Minnesota to compete in the NCAA Division III championships.

Swimming and Diving Standouts

200 IM	***1 meter Dive***	***200 Back***
J.P. Gowdy (2nd)	Derek Chicirilli (7th)	Ian Doherty (9th)
400 IM	***3 meter Dive***	***100 Free***
J.P. Gowdy (3rd)	Derek Chicirilli 10th)	J.P. Gowdy (4th)

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Men's Sports	
Baseball @ Wesleyan University	April 3 @ 1:00
Lacrosse vs. Springfield College	April 3 @1:00
Tennis vs. Williams College	April 6 @ 4:00

The Campus Sports

Women's Sports	
Softball @ Wesleyan University	April 3 @ 1:00
Lacrosse @ Union College	April 6 @ 3:30
Track and Field @ Springfield College	April 3

THE FIRST TO FIVE

Panthers defeat Wisconsin-Superior to claim fifth straight NCAA Division III title

Peter Huoppi

Jack Kennedy '02 scores to finish off Wisconsin-Superior 5-0 in the NCAA Division III hockey championship game. Middlebury became the first college hockey team to win five straight titles.

By Otie Hart
Sports Editor

It really was not supposed to happen this year.

Middlebury had won four straight NCAA Division III championships, and no hockey team on any collegiate level had ever won five straight national titles in the history of the NCAA. Throw in a opening game loss to Connecticut College and the loss of six seniors, including All-World Mark Spence, and it seemed impossible for the Panthers to repeat again.

Men's Hockey

Friday, March 19

Middlebury	9
R.I.T.	3

Saturday, March 20

Wisconsin Superior	0
Middlebury	5

Fast forward to March 20, 1999. Middlebury not only wins their fifth straight championship, they obliterate their competition and make this year's Final Four the easiest of the five.

"In all honesty, this was the biggest," Head Coach Bill Beaney said after Middlebury's 5-0 defeat of Wisconsin-Superior in the championship game. "We felt with so many new people and having lost the quality of players that we did, that it was going to be a long road back."

In many ways, it was a long road back for the Panthers after losing two of their first four games this year. However, the team peaked at the right time, destroying an excellent R.I.T. team 9-3 in the semifinal and literally cruising past Wisconsin-Superior.

"It is [the most special]," Beaney said, "simply because—I was honest with these young men—I didn't expect and they knew I didn't expect it. We just expected that they would work as hard they could and become as good a team as we could."

Beaney's team worked extremely hard against the Tigers (26-2-2) in the semifinal. Junior David Bracken opened the scoring at 9:17 in the first period with a short-handed goal. R.I.T. captain and leading scorer Luke Murphy passed the puck to teammate Scott Jones when Jones was heading to the bench. Matt Skoglund '01 took advantage of the mistake, leaping on the loose puck and taking it hard to the net. Skoglund made nice pass on the breakaway, and Bracken beat Jamie Morris stickside to put the Panthers up 1-0.

R.I.T., somewhat shell-shocked by the short-handed goal, allowed another goal 1:20 later, when senior Jeff Anastasio caught Morris out of position and put the puck in an almost empty net.

The Tigers countered five minutes later on an incredible play by Patrick Staerker. After an errant pass, Staerker, arguably the best pure talent in the Final Four, stole the puck and skated right past the Middlebury defense. His breakaway shot was stopped by sophomore goalie Jon Marsh, but Matt Garver put home the rebound to halve the lead, 2-1 going into the first intermission.

It is [the most special], simply because—I was honest with these guys—I didn't expect it and they knew I didn't expect it.

—Head Coach Bill Beaney

Whatever Middlebury put in the Gatorade during intermission should be immediately banned by the NCAA. The Panthers came out and scored six goals on Morris, a goalie who had given up six goals in a game only once this season. Highlighted by natural hat tricks from co-captain Ross Sealfon '99 and Curt Goldman '00, Middlebury fired 19 shots on goal and took complete control of the game.

"I'm really proud of the way the team played today," Sealfon said at the post-game press conference. "Everyone played their role, and the team came together."

"It was one of those nights that we were shooting the puck, and it was going in," Beaney said. "We really did the job on the special teams. I liked the fact that we kept playing good defense in the third period. We had people diving for pucks, even though it was five, six-goal differential."

On Saturday, the Panthers expected a much closer game against Wisconsin-Superior who upset top-ranked Norwich the night before. It was the third straight year that Middlebury just missed a face-off with a regional opponent, with Plattsburgh State and Norwich losing in 1998 and 1997, respectively.

Junior All-ECAC defensemen Ben Barnett opened up the scoring at 12:13 in the first period with a slap shot from the blue line. The puck somehow cleanly made it through the crowd of bodies in front of the goal and beat Keith Bartholomeus glove side. It was a power play goal for the Panthers and the beginning of a long night for Bartholomeus, who was unbelievable in goal the night before against Norwich.

"I really can't take all the credit [for the goal in the first period], because the guys on the power play moved the puck so well," Barnett said. "It's hard to defend five guys who really move the puck well."

With just under three minutes left in the period, Barnett took another blue line shot on the power-play. Senior co-captain Nickolai Bobrov got a stick on it and deflected it past Bartholomeus's stick and into the net. Bobrov ended the evening with a season-high four points (two goals, two assists). Bar-

(see Bobrov, page 21)